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Alfreton Urban District Council

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# ANNUAL REPORT

of the  
Medical Officer of Health and Sanitary Inspector

**For the Year 1955**

To which is added certain details by the Surveyor  
for the same year.

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ALEXANDER LAURIE. M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,  
*Medical Officer of Health.*

FRANCIS P. WALTERS,  
*Acting Surveyor and Water Engineer.*

ERNEST MERCER. M.R.S.H., F.S.I.A.,  
*Sanitary Inspector, Cleansing Superintendent and Shops Act Inspector.*

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ALFRETON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

With the Compliments

of the

Chief Public Health Inspector

Public Health Department,  
"The Firs",  
High Street,  
Alfreton,  
Derbyshire.

# Alfreton Urban District Council

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# ANNUAL REPORT

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## **Public Health Committee :**

COUNCILLOR M. HEWITT (Chairman)

Members: All the members of the Council

## **PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

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### **Medical Officer of Health:**

\*A. LAURIE, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,

**Chief Sanitary Inspector, Cleansing Superintendent  
and Shops Act Inspector :**

\*E. MERCER, M.R.S.H., F.S.I.A.,  
(*Cert. for Meat and Food Inspection*)

### **Assistant Sanitary Inspector :**

\*G. T. HAYES, A.R.S.H., M.S.I.A.,

**General Clerk :**      **Receptionist and Shorthand Typist :**

MISS B. M. BETTISON.      MISS D. RANDLE.

*\*Exchequer grant contributions to salary.*



1955 - 1956

# Alfreton Urban District Council

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Chairman : Councillor F. C. Peacock

Vice-Chairman : B. F. Weston

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## ALFRETON WARD

Date elected

1950	Councillor	R. BOWLZER
1946	,,	G. H. COWHAM
1921	,,	G. W. HARDY
1950	,,	M. HEWITT
1949	,,	A. MCGREGOR
1954	,,	D. A. WHITEMAN

## SOMERCOTES WARD

1951	Councillor	Mrs. N. L. BRAMLEY
1953	,,	A. STRINGER
1955	,,	W. T. RIMMINGTON

## RIDDINGS WARD

1953	Councillor	T. BRADLEY
1938	,,	H. BRADSHAW, c.c.
1943	,,	D. SKELTON

## SWANWICK WARD

1946	Councillor	G. HUNT
1949	,,	F. C. PEACOCK
1953	,,	S. D. SANSAM

## IRONVILLE WARD

1946	Councillor	J. GREGORY, c.c.
1949	,,	B. F. WESTON

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The Council meets on the first Tuesday of each month  
at 6.30 p.m.



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## URBAN DISTRICT OF ALFRETON.

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# Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health.

*To the Chairman and Members of the  
Urban District of Alfreton.*

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report on the state of the public health of the Urban District for the year 1955.

The report gives detailed information of the Statistics including Vital Statistics of the Urban District for 1955, the Vital Statistics containing details of Births and Deaths and Infectious Diseases. Comparisons are made with previous years and with England and Wales where appropriate. The report also includes information on the various Clinics operating in the Urban District.

The work of the Sanitary Inspectors is described in detail in a report submitted by the Chief Sanitary Inspector. This report illustrates well the variety of duties which the Sanitary Department is called upon to perform.

Each new year brings with it new legislation of Public Health control, and 1955 has been no exception. Each new statutory power increases the ability of the Council through the Public Health Department to improve and protect the health and welfare of the community ; it also increases, however, the number of problems which have to be solved in the interpretation and administration of that power. The attention of the appropriate Committees, and of the Public Health Department, during the year has been directed in the main towards three groups of Acts or Official Statements. These were the Public Health part of the Derbyshire County Council Act 1954 ; the various circulars on Housing dealing with Slum Clearance, Housing Subsidies and Slum Clearance Compensation ; and the question of slaughtering facilities, which was brought into discussion by the publication of a Report by an Interdepartmental Committee on Slaughterhouses presented by the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

The Derbyshire County Council Act (Part VI) certain sections excepted, came into force on 1st April, 1955. This part of the Act contains a large number of the Public Health powers applying to Boroughs and Urban Districts. Certain sections of the Act were to come into force on an appointed day fixed by the Council, and the appointed day for this Council was October 1st, 1955. Part VI of the Act covers legislation on Sewers and Drains, Conveniences, Refuse, Verminous Premises, Buildings

and Structures, Nuisances, Infectious Diseases, Food, Animals and Meat, Rivers and Streams, Hairdressers and Barbers and Medicated Baths. Generally speaking the changes in the law were in the nature of extensions of existing powers, but Section 146 requiring registration by the Local Authority of Hairdressers and Barbers was a new development and perhaps the most controversial of all, in particular with regard to the bye-laws for which authority was given under the section. The Public Health Department feels that the requirements set out in the bye-laws could be admitted to be normal desirable practice in any good hairdressers establishment. The sections adopted by Alferton Council were, Section 146 Hairdressers and Barbers, Section 109 Demolition of Buildings, Section 137 Registration of Hawkers of Food and their Premises, Section 140 Slaughter of Animals otherwisethanforhumanconsumption, Section 141 Animals slaughtered outside slaughterhouses, and they came into force on 1st October, 1955.

Considerable interest has been shown in this and neighbouring towns in an official report by an Interdepartmental Committee on Slaughterhouses presented by the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food to Parliament in July 1955. This report led to a more critical examination of the present slaughtering facilities. The report was the first official indication of the future arrangements for slaughtering of animals for human consumption in the country, and its recommendations are as might be expected; a compromise between the present relatively uninhabited private enterprise arrangements of several thousand small slaughterhouses in England and Wales and the 500 publicly owned abattoirs which existed during the war. As a compromise it is in many ways admirable, although there are many who feel that the Committee's report goes too far in the degree of concentration, while agreeing that some concentration of the present system was desirable. The detailed listing in the Committee's report of towns in areas in which public abattoirs should be sited tends to emphasise the importance of public abattoirs over privately owned slaughterhouses, but public health workers are probably little concerned basically as to the relative importance and desirability of one over the other in any area provided that the slaughterhouses, be they publicly or privately owned, reach a reasonable standard of hygiene and efficiency. An official standard of minimum requirements for slaughterhouses is eagerly awaited. It is hoped that the Minister will not long delay an official announcement of his decision and that matters of national economy will not weigh too heavily on the side of indefinite postponement of a desirable public health measure.

There have been certain changes of clerical staff in my office in Alferton. Miss Hilda Clarke transferred to the Ilkeston



Public Health Department and her place was taken by Mr. Bertram Potts. Authority was given for the appointment of one additional clerk and Mrs. Lilian Day was given the appointment.

The arrangement whereby your town shares the services of one Medical Officer of Health with two, and latterly three other Areas, has now been in operation for more than a year, and I feel that most of the immediate difficulties have been overcome. This has been due in no small way to the co-operation of your Chief Sanitary Inspector and the other members of the Health Department, and I am very grateful to them for this co-operation, my thanks are also due to your Clerk and your Surveyor. The Surveyor has kindly given information on matters appertaining to Water Supply and Sewerage.

I wish to ask the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee to accept my thanks for their understanding and encouragement during 1955.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,  
Your obedient servant,  
ALEXANDER LAURIE,  
Medical Officer of Health.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS.

1. General statistics—

Area (in acres)	...	...	5,023
Population (estimated)	...	...	23,430
Number of inhabited houses	...	...	7,559
Number of families (1951 census)	...	...	6,770
Rateable value	...	...	£199,925
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	£426/11/0
Population per acre	...	...	4.66

2. Extracts from vital statistics—

Births—

Live births registered	...	...	335
Still births registered	...	...	13
Birth rate per 1,000 population	...	...	14.29
Adjusted birth rate (comparability factor=0.97)	...	...	13.86
Birth rate, England and Wales	...	...	15.0
Still birth rate per 1,000 births (live and still)	...	...	37.35
Still birth rate, England and Wales	...	...	23.1

Deaths—

Deaths registered	...	...	213
Crude death rate per 1,000 population	...	...	9.09
Adjusted death rate (comparability factor=1.09)	...	...	9.90

Death rate, England and Wales	...	...	11.7
Maternal deaths (pregnancy, childbirth, abortion)			0
Maternal mortality rate	...	...	—
Maternal mortality, England and Wales	...		0.64
Infant deaths under 1 year of age	...	...	9
Infant mortality per 1,000 live births	...		26.86
Infant mortality, England and Wales	...		24.9
Infant deaths (legitimate) under 1 year of age	...		9
Infant deaths (illegitimate) under 1 year of age	...		0
Infant deaths under 4 weeks of age	...		7
Neonatal mortality per 1,000 live births	...		20.89
Neonatal mortality, England and Wales	...		17.3
Death rate per 1,000 population from			
Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	—
Tuberculosis, respiratory, England and Wales	...		0.131
Tuberculosis, other forms	...	...	0.042
Tuberculosis, other forms, England and Wales	...		0.015
Cancer of lung and bronchus	...	...	0.085
Cancer of lung and bronchus, England and Wales	...		0.285
Cancer, other forms	...	...	1.579
Cancer, other forms, England and Wales	...		1.667

## VITAL STATISTICS.

### Population.

The estimated population for the Urban District for the year 1955 is 23,430, which is an increase of 60 over that of the preceding year, when the estimated population was 23,370. The population at the 1951 census was 23,385. The natural increase of the population, that is, the increase of births over deaths for 1955 is 122. The population trend for the years 1945-1955 is shown in Table 3.

### Births.

There were 335 live births registered in the year, giving a birth rate per 1,000 of the population of 14.29. The corresponding rate for 1954 was 16.99. The 1955 birth rate corrected for sex and age by applying the comparability factor for the year of 0.97, gives a figure of 13.86 for the birth rate, which can be compared with the England and Wales rate for 1955 of 15.0. Thirteen still births were registered in the year, giving a still birth rate per thousand (live and still) births of 37.35. The corresponding rate for England and Wales is 23.1.

Table 1 gives the numerical details of births and still births in respect of sex and legitimacy, and Table 3 gives the birth rate figures for the years 1945 to 1955. It will be seen that the birth rate has been slowly falling after the immediate post war rise. The rate is also a little below the average rate for the immediate pre-war years.



## **Deaths.**

There were 213 deaths registered in the year giving a crude death rate per thousand of the population of 9.09, a decrease on the 1954 figure, 10.61. The application of the comparability factor of 1.09 to make allowance for sex and age distribution gives a rate of 9.90, the England and Wales figure being 11.7. The fluctuation in recent yearly death rates is shown in Table 3.

The overall picture of death rates during the recent years shows little change from year to year although the 1955 figure is the lowest so far recorded.

## **Deaths from individual diseases.**

213 deaths were registered in the year, the major group of diseases from which persons died was that of the heart and circulatory system. This group was responsible for 111 deaths, 54 males and 57 females, more than half the deaths registered. Of the 111 deaths, 27 were due to coronary disease or angina of the heart, with the sexes almost equal, 13 males and 14 females.

Vascular lesions of the nervous system, generally referred to as strokes, were the cause of death in 28 cases, this being included in the above. Of that 28, 15 were males and 13 females. With the exception of vascular lesions of the nervous system all the above figures are less than the corresponding figures for 1954.

About one fifth of all the deaths recorded were due to malignant disease, 39 in all. Of this number, 12 were due to cancer of the stomach, 2 to cancer of the lung, 5 to cancer of the breast, 1 to cancer of the uterus and 19 to various other forms of cancer. The sex distribution of all cancer deaths was 21 males and 18 females. The death rate for the town from cancer of the lung (0.085) and from other forms of cancer (1.579) for the town was below the corresponding rates for England and Wales (0.385 and 1.667).

Seven fatal accidents occurred in 1955. Two were motor vehicle accidents and the victims were a man aged 28 years and a boy aged 3 years. There was one suicide by hanging.

## **Infant mortality.**

Nine infant deaths occurred in the year and seven of them were infants under the age of four weeks. The infant mortality, that is the number of children under the age of one year dying per thousand live births, was 26.86, slightly higher than the figure 24.9 for England and Wales. Most of this infant mortality is however made up of babies dying under the age of four weeks, that is the neonatal deaths. The neonatal death rate per thousand live births for the year was 25.89, compared with 17.3 for England and Wales. The neonatal deaths represent

the hard core of infant deaths, for such deaths are due largely to prematurity, congenital malformation and the hazards of birth, rather than disease and environment. Of the seven neonatal deaths prematurity was a factor in four of the deaths and congenital deformity a factor in two.

It is to be noted that no mothers died from childbirth during the year.

### **Infectious diseases.**

The very low total of 96 notifications of infectious diseases was reported during 1955; details of the age and sex incidence with hospital admissions are set out in the tables.

The diseases in order of numerical importance were Measles (62), Whooping Cough (16), Respiratory Tuberculosis (7), Scarlet Fever (7), Poliomyelitis (2), Pneumonia (1) and Erysipelas (1).

Measles with 62 notifications was predominant, the cases occurring with two exceptions during the months of January, February and March. 29 of the cases were in children under five years of age and the remaining 33 were children of the five to ten age group. Two cases were admitted to hospital and there were no deaths.

Sixteen cases of Whooping Cough were notified and these occurred during the latter six months of the year, the peak months being July and August. Eleven of the children affected were under five years of age and the remaining five were of the five to ten age group.

The seven cases of Scarlet Fever occurred during the months of March and June. Only one case was in a pre-school child, and all the cases were under the age of fifteen years.

Two cases of Poliomyelitis were reported, both cases being in children of the ten to fifteen year age group. One case was of the Non-Paralytic type and occurred in August and the other of the Paralytic type, was notified in October; both cases were relatively mild.

The seven cases of respiratory tuberculosis were all, with one exception, in persons of working age, and there was a predominance of females over males in a ratio of five to two. The incidence of this disease in 1955 was the lowest recorded for nine years. There has been a gradual decline in the incidence of non-respiratory tuberculosis over the years and it is pleasing to note that no cases were recorded at all in 1955. The total number of new cases of tuberculosis of all types found in 1955 was a record low number according to the statistics available.



Table 1. BIRTHS.

Births		Legitimate			Illegitimate		
		M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
Live	...	166	157	323	5	7	12
Still	...	6	6	12	—	1	1

Table 2. INFANT DEATHS.

Infant deaths		Legitimate			Illegitimate		
		M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
Under 1 year of age		5	4	9	—	—	—
Under 4 wks. of age		4	3	7	—	—	—

Table 3. RATES - COMPARATIVE TABLES - 1945-1955.  
Population - Births and deaths - Infant mortality.

Year		Population	Birth rate	Death rate	Infant mortality rate
1945	...	21,270	19.88	10.35	46.91
1946	...	21,950	19.13	12.34	23.6
1947	...	22,170	20.88	11.63	41.03
1948	...	22,710	18.66	10.56	52.63
1949	...	22,930	17.96	11.81	52.10
1950	...	23,300	16.82	11.2	28.57
1951	...	23,170	14.28	11.26	24.16
1952	...	23,130	16.34	9.16	27.88
1953	...	23,220	16.60	10.43	40.42
1954	...	23,370	16.99	10.61	22.67
1955	...	23,430	14.29	9.09	26.86

Table 4. CAUSES OF DEATH.

			M.	F.	Total
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	—	—	—
2	Tuberculosis, other	...	—	1	1
3	Syphilitic disease	...	—	—	—
4	Diphtheria	...	—	—	—
5	Whooping cough	...	—	—	—
6	Meningococcal infections	...	—	—	—
7	Acute poliomyelitis	...	—	—	—
8	Measles	...	—	—	—
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases		—	1	1
10	Malignant neoplasms, stomach	...	5	7	12
11	„ „ lung, bronchus		2	—	2
12	„ „ breast	...	—	5	5
13	„ „ uterus	...	—	1	1
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms		14	5	19
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	2	1	3

16	Diabetes	...	...	...	1	2	3
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system				15	13	28
18	Coronary disease, angina	...			13	14	27
19	Hypertension of heart disease	...			3	3	6
20	Other heart disease	...	...		14	23	37
21	Other circulatory disease	...			9	4	13
22	Influenza	...	...	...	—	—	—
23	Pneumonia	...	...	...	3	4	7
24	Bronchitis	...	...	...	13	2	15
25	Other diseases of respiratory system				3	—	3
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...			1	—	1
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...			1	—	1
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	...			1	—	1
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	...			1	—	1
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...			—	—	—
31	Congenital malformations	...			—	2	2
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases				9	7	16
33	Motor vehicle accidents	...			2	—	2
34	All other accidents	...	...	...	2	3	5
35	Suicide	...	...	...	1	—	1
36	Homicide and operations of war	...			—	—	—
All causes					115	98	213

Table 5. TUBERCULOSIS, 1955 : New cases and mortality.

Age periods		New cases				Deaths			
		Respiratory		Non-respiratory		Respiratory		Non-respiratory	
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under one year	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10	...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	...	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
25	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45	...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total		2	5	—	—	—	—	—	—

Table 6. Cases of Tuberculosis notified, 1945-1955.

Year	Respiratory	Non-respiratory	Total	Year	Respiratory	Non-respiratory	Total
1945	5	7	12	1951	29	1	30
1946	7	7	14	1952	16	4	20
1947	10	3	13	1953	10	3	13
1948	14	4	18	1954	10	1	11
1949	17	5	22	1955	7	—	7
1950	11	2	13				

Table 7.  
 NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING THE YEAR 1955.  
 Age groups - hospital admissions.

Notifiable disease	All ages	Under 1 yr.	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	35-	45-	60 & over	Age un-known	Adm. to hosp.
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet fever	7	—	—	—	1	—	4	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Pneumonia	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Anthrax	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	62	1	3	7	9	9	33	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Whooping Cough	16	3	1	5	1	1	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Meningococcal infection	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Non-paralytic	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Paralytic	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Para-Typhoid	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Table 8.

## NOTIFIABLE DISEASES - Seasonal incidence.

Notifiable Disease	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet fever ...	—	—	2	1	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	7
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal pyrexia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute pneumonia ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Anthrax ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	32	6	22	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	62
Whooping cough ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	6	2	1	—	1	16
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Meningococcal infection ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute encephalitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia neonatorum ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Non-paralytic	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Paralytic	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Respiratory tuberculosis	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	2	2	—	—	1	7
Non-respiratory tuberculosis...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Para-typhoid ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food poisoning ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—



Table 9.  
 NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis).  
 1945-1955. All ages.

	Smallpox	Scarlet fever	Diphtheria	Enteric fever	Puerperal pyrexia	Acute pneumonia	Anthrax	Measles	Whooping cough	Erysipelas	Meningococcal infection	Acute encephalitis	Ophthalmia neonatorum	Acute poliomyelitis	Para-typhoid	Food poisoning	Dysentery
1945	—	37	22	—	1	12	—	167	9	5	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
1946	—	18	8	—	2	11	—	48	26	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
1947	—	10	4	1	1	9	—	118	2	2	—	3	—	7	—	—	—
1948	—	85	2	—	—	14	—	164	22	4	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
1949	—	32	—	—	—	1	—	276	60	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
1950	—	18	—	—	1	4	—	80	44	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1951	—	12	—	—	—	15	—	121	6	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	3
1952	—	2	—	—	—	3	—	212	54	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
1953	—	20	—	—	—	1	—	147	60	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1954	—	1	—	—	—	4	—	276	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	11
1955	—	7	—	—	—	1	—	62	16	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—

## PROVISION OF CLINICS.

### Derbyshire County Council—

**County Clinic, Grange Street, Alfreton.** Tel. Alfreton 219.

Speech therapy, Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Ante-natal Clinic, Fridays, 9 to 12.30, 1.30 to 4 p.m.

Infant Welfare Clinic, Tuesdays, 9 to 12.30, 1.30 to 4 p.m.

Eye Clinic, 1st, 2nd and 3rd Wednesday afternoons  
(by appointment).

School Health Clinic, Wednesday mornings  
(Doctor in attendance).

Orthopaedic Clinic, Thursdays, morning and afternoon.

### Wesleyan Church, Somercotes.

Infant Welfare Clinic, 2nd and 4th Monday, 1.30 to 4 p.m.

### Regional Hospital Board—

Chest Clinic, County Clinic, Grange Street, Alfreton,  
Tuesday and Friday, 9.30 to 12.30.

## Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948.

### Part 1 of the Act.

1. **Inspections** for the purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors) :-

Premises	No. on register	No. of Inspections	No. of written notices	No. of occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	5	1	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	93	55	2	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises) ...	—	—	—	—
Total	98	56	2	—

## 2. Cases in which defects were found :-

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	referred to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S2.) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences (S.7) :					
(a) insufficient ...	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	—	—
(c) not separate for sexes	1	—	—	1	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork) ...	1	—	1	—	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>—</b>

## Part VIII of the Act.

Nature of work	No. of outworkers in August list	No. of cases of default in sending list to the Council		Notices served	Prosecutions
<b>Outwork—</b>					
Wearing apparel: making etc.	111	—	—	—	—
Lace, lace curtains and nets ...	9	—	—	—	—
Nets, other than wire nets ...	18	—	—	—	—
Others ...	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>

# Surveyor's Report.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Survey, Waterworks and Housing Committees.*

I append herewith a summarised report compiled in accordance with Circular 2/50 dated 25th January, 1950.

It will be appreciated that this report is of a brief character only and by no means embraces the full working of my department.

To enumerate fully the statistics and records of all the undertakings in my control would entail a special staff, and the final report would be much too long for this purpose.

## Water Supply.

The following particulars relate to the year 1955:—

	<i>Gallons</i>
Supplied by Derwent Valley Water Board ...	215,052,000
Pumped at Lea Hall borehole ...	113,604,000
Pumped at Lindway borehole ...	12,804,000
Pumped at South Wingfield Colliery ...	3,129,000
Supplied from impounding reservoirs ...	51,361,000
	<hr/> 395,950,000 <hr/>

The following figures supplied, by meter for trade purposes, relate to the year ending the 31st March, 1956, and the calculations below are based upon the assumption that the population supplied by the Council was 20,560.

	<i>Gallons per head per day</i>
For domestic and public purposes ...	32.630
For trade purposes and Belper R.D.C. ...	17.419
As compensation ...	2.713
	<hr/> 52.762 <hr/>

Owing to the widespread occurrence of colliery subsidence in this Urban District there have been a large number of bursts and leaking joints on the water mains causing considerable inconvenience to the general public. Two bursts have occurred on 10" and three on 7" supply mains to Alfreton, and forty-five bursts on distribution mains of 2", 3" and 4" diameter. During the year the Derwent Valley Water Board turned off the water supply to Alfreton on two occasions to effect repairs, in May and October.



## Water Sampling.

During the year nine samples were taken of mains water after filtration and chlorination, for bacteriological examination. All proved suitable for drinking purposes. Of three samples of raw water from boreholes, all were unsatisfactory. One chemical analysis taken before treatment and two after treatment proved satisfactory.

## Additions.

New water mains laid :

Distribution mains : Pentrich Road, Swanwick - connecting new main to existing main, 230 lin. yds. 4" water main.  
Windmill Estate, Riddings - 180 lin. yds. 3" water main.

## Waste of Water Notices - Public Health Act, 1875.

Seven notices have been sent to owners of property to repair burst pipes, etc., causing wastage of water.

483 Taps have had new washers fitted free of charge by the Waste Water Inspector, in order to conserve the water supply.

## Water Abstraction Regulations, 1947.

### Under Section 6 of the Water Act, 1945.

A daily record has been kept of water pumped from Lea Borehole and Lindway Borehole, and water analyses taken, and returns sent to the Director of the Geological Survey and Museum in accordance with the above regulations.

## Housing.

There were 86 traditional houses, bungalows and flats completed during the year by Alferton U.D.C. In addition, 37 houses were completed by private enterprise.

The number of houses under construction by Alferton U.D.C. (at the end of 1955) was 44, and by private enterprise 44.

## Housing Programme Summary at 31st December, 1955.

*Houses, etc., completed :*

Pre-war houses	...	...	456
Post-war houses, bungalows and flats	995		
Hutments, Swanwick	...	...	17
		—	1012
			1468

*Houses under construction :*

Pease Close site, Alfreton :

Two-bedroom type	...	6	
Flats	...	32	
Bungalows	...	6	
		—	44
			— —
			1512
			=====

**Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.**

No large works of repair were carried out during the year. Flooding of streets and even houses has occurred during heavy storms due to the inadequacy of the existing sewers.

Many of the existing sewers and sewerage disposal works in the Alfreton Urban District are seriously overloaded during wet periods.

The following is a list of the sewage outfall works in the Alfreton Urban District :

Meadow Lane sewage farm, Meadow Lane, Alfreton.  
Highfields sewage farm, off Wingfield Road, Alfreton.  
Birchwood sewage farm, Birchwood Lane, Somercotes.  
Swanwick sewage farm, off Derby Road, Swanwick.  
Greenhill Lane sewage farm, Greenhill Lane, Riddings.  
Newlands sewage farm, Newlands Road, Riddings.  
Codnor Park sewage farm, off Main Road, Pye Bridge.  
Cotes Park sewage farm, off Nottingham Rd., Somercotes.

**Highways.**

Road works have been carried out on county roads as follows :

**A 615.**

Section : Raynes garage to station yard, north side.  
Length : 50 lin. yds., new kerbs and footpath surfacing.  
Section : Station to Preston Avenue, south side.  
Length : 300 lin. yds., new kerbs and footpath surfacing.  
Section : Catherine Street to boundary.  
Length : 450 lin. yds., road tarsprayed.  
Section : Wilson Street to Nottingham Road.  
Length : 250 lin. yds., road tarsprayed.

**A 613.**

Section : George Street to Wycliffe Road, south side.  
Length : 90 lin. yds., new kerbs and slab footpath re-laid.  
Section : John Street to Cornhill House, north side.  
Length : 170 lin. yds., new kerbs and footpath surfacing.  
Section : Somercotes Market Place to Cinder Road.  
Length : 800 lin. yds., cold asphalt carpet coat laid.  
Section : Flowery Leys Lane to Tiger Inn.  
Length : 1800 lin. yds., road tarsprayed.

## **B 6016.**

Section : Doctor's Corner to Bullock Lane.

Length : 700 lin. yds., cold asphalt carpet coat laid.

Section : Doctor's corner to sewage farm, west side.

Length : 180 lin. yds., footpath surfacing.

Section : Swanwick Delves to Greenhill Lane.

Length : 500 lin. yds., road tarsprayed.

## **B 6017.**

Section : Sleetmoor Lane to Wood Street.

Length : 300 lin. yds., new kerbs and footpath surfacing.

Section : Sherwood Street to Horse and Jockey.

Length : 70 lin. yds., new kerbs.

## **Class III. Newlands - Golden Valley.**

Section : Newlands Farm to level crossings.

Length : 700 lin. yds., road tarsprayed.

## **Class III. Birchwood Lane.**

Section : Birchwood Chapel to Lower Birchwood.

Length : 700 lin. yds., footpath resurfaced.

## **Unclassified. Sleetmoor Lane.**

Section : No. 15 to allotments.

Length : 120 lin. yds., carpet coat laid.

Section : Derby Road to Laburnum Inn.

Length : 700 lin. yds., road tarsprayed.

Tarspraying of district roads has been carried out in the Urban District as follows :-

*Alfreton* : Flowery Leys Lane, Institute Lane, Grange Street, Marshall Street, Wycliffe Road, Lincoln Street, Independent Hill, Prospect Street, Hall Street, Cressy Road, Meadow Lane, Alma Street, Preston Avenue, Shakespeare Drive, Milton Avenue.

*Riddings* : Nottingham Lane, Market Place.

*Somercotes* : Coupland Place.

*Swanwick* : High Street, New Street, The Meadows.

## **Openings in Public Highways.**

During the year there have been 278 applications for permission to break up public highways. Consequently reinstatements in all these cases have been carried out by the Council and charges made to the respective applicants.

## **Cemeteries.**

Interments during 1955 :-

Alfreton cemetery	...	...	51
Leabrooks cemetery	...	...	68



Memorials erected during 1955 :-

Alfreton : headstones and kerbs	...	51
vases	...	19
inscriptions	...	11
Leabrooks : headstones and kerbs	...	18
vases	...	21
inscriptions	...	14

Since the flat section started in each cemetery there have been 80 burials at Alfreton and 75 at Leabrooks. During 1955 there have been 15 at Alfreton and 13 at Leabrooks.

### Pleasure Grounds.

Generally, the pleasure grounds were maintained in good order in view of the amount of labour available for this purpose.

The following is a list of the pleasure grounds and playing fields in the Urban District that are controlled by the Council.

Alfreton Miners' Welfare Ground - 14 acres.

*Facilities :* 2 football pitches  
2 bowling greens  
5 tennis courts  
1 putting green  
1 pavilion

Alma Watchorn Park - Gardens - 2.5 acres.

Watchorn Playing Fields - 4 acres.

*Facilities :* 1 hockey and 1 cricket pitch  
1 paddling pool

Somercotes Welfare Ground - 8 acres.

*Facilities :* 1 bowling green  
4 tennis courts  
1 18-hole putting green  
2 pavilions

Somercotes Cricket Ground - 6 acres.

*Facilities :* 1 football pitch  
1 cricket pitch

Pye Bridge Recreation Ground - 12 acres.

*Facilities :* 1 football pitch

Riddings Recreation Ground - 12 acres.

*Facilities :* 1 bowling green  
2 tennis courts  
gardens  
2 football pitches  
1 pavilion

Codnor Park Recreation Ground - 9 acres.

*Facilities :* 4 tennis courts (2 grass)  
1 football pitch  
2 pavilions



Birchwood Woods - Woodlands - 12 acres.

Swanwick Playing Fields - 1 acre.

*Facilities* : children's swings

### **Alfreton Market.**

The Saturday market started in December, 1954, and approximately half the stalls are now in use on Saturdays.

The Friday market was fully let with all 58 stalls occupied for most of the year. The average lettings is just over 57 per week, due to stallholders' absence in very bad weather and holiday periods.

### **Notification of Defects by Sanitary Inspector.**

During the year the Sanitary Inspector has referred 103 complaints to me for my attention. A large number of these were of a technical character relating to building construction. Appropriate action was taken and the complaints remedied.

Close liaison has been maintained with all officers of the Council.

### **Generally.**

#### *Outdoor Staff.*

It will be realised that the division of the employees between the various departments fluctuates according to the season and the nature of the current works; however, I have endeavoured to average out the numbers throughout the year :-

#### *Water works :*

- 1 Waste water Inspector
- 1 Plumber and turncock
- 1 Water bailiff
- 1 Plumber's mate
- 6 Labourers

#### *Highways (County and District roads) :*

- 2 Paviers
- 1 Ganger
- 18 Labourers

#### *General :*

- 1 Tractor driver
- 3 Motor lorry drivers
- 2 Roller drivers
- 1 Compressor operator
- 2 Hedgecutters

#### *Gulley emptying :*

- 1 Gulley emptier driver
- 1 Gulley emptier driver's mate

#### *Sewerage and sewage disposal :*

- 5 Sewage farm attendants
- 2 Labourers

#### *Cemeteries :*

- 2 Sextons
- 2 Labourers
- 2 Chapel cleaners (part-time)

#### *Market :*

- Labourer (7 hours per week)

#### *Public conveniences :*

- 1½ Male cleaners
- 1 Female cleaner

#### *Public Offices :*

- 1 Cleaner

*Housing repairs :*

1 Bricklayer supervisor  
3 Bricklayers  
1 Bricklayers' mate  
2 Plumbers  
4 Painters  
5 Labourers  
1 Joiner  
1 Gardener

*Depot :*

1 Storekeeper

*Street scavenging :*

1 Mechanical sweeper driver  
3 Labourers

*Pleasure grounds :*

5 Groundsmen  
6 Gardeners

Total - 93 workmen.

*Supervisory staff :*

Highways Superintendent and General Foreman : A. Hough.  
Clerks of Works : T. Clarke and S. Shelton.

I have received good co-operation from the outside staff and this has enabled me to carry out the whole of the year's programme of works satisfactorily.

*Technical office staff :*

Deputy surveyor	...	F. H. Hanbury, A.M.T.P.I.
Technical assistant	...	G. Wibberley
Chief clerk	...	D. I. Dowman
Senior clerk	...	Miss P. H. Cox
Clerk and typist	...	J. Hopson

My sincere thanks are due to the office staff for conscientious attention to duty and enthusiasm for their work which has enabled the department to run efficiently.

It will be appreciated that the work of my department is of a highly important and technical nature requiring great care and attention to detail and involves the control of the majority of the important public services.

F. P. WALTERS,

Surveyor and Water Engineer.

# Annual Report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector

## on the Sanitary Administration of the Urban District.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Council.*

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my fifteenth Annual Report for the year, 1955. As in previous years it has been compiled in accordance with Circulars 17/55 dated 23rd November, 1955, and Circular 28/54 dated 15th December issued by the Ministry of Health, and in accordance with Articles 6 (3) and 17 (5) of the Sanitary Officers' (outside London) Regulations, 1935-1951 and Article 14 (3) of the Sanitary Officers' Order, 1926. The latter requires officers to furnish the Medical Officer of Health with a report of their work during the preceding year as soon as possible after the 31st December.

In common with other local authorities employing small staffs who have had the burden of meat inspection thrust upon them we have again had an arduous and difficult year. This has certainly not been made easier by the official attitude adopted towards this important aspect of public health work. Despite the difficulties, and at the expense of other activities, 100% meat inspection was maintained.

Important legislation and Statutory Instruments and Ministry Circulars affecting our work were introduced as follows :

Circular 1/55 (E. & W.) March 31st, "Myxomatosis in rabbits and hares" included in Memo. 3 Food.

Statutory instrument No. 917, 1st July, Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Amendment Regulations 1955.

Report of Interdepartmental Committee on Slaughterhouses (E. & W.), July 18th.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955 came into operation on 16th December.

Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955 came into operation 1st January, 1956.

We have made every endeavour to deal satisfactorily with the requests for help and advice during the year under review.

General sanitary administration :-

			No. on register	Increase or decrease	Inspections made
Bakehouses	...	...	9	0	8
Canal boats	...	...	0	0	0
Common lodging houses...			1	0	5



	No. on register	Increase or decrease	Inspections made
Dairies ...	35	+2	36
Factories and workplaces	98	—8	57
Houses let in lodgings ...	0	0	0
Ice cream premises ...	81	+4	41
Market stalls ...	10	+4	520
Milk distributors ...	33	+4	61
Moveable dwellings :-			
(a) sites ...	8	0	12
(b) dwellings ...	19	+1	24
Offensive trades ...	1	0	18
Outworkers ...	138	—8	0
Preserved food stores ...	45	0	194
Shops ...	483	0	510
Slaughterhouses ...	14	0	1930
Knackers' yards ...	0	0	0
Swimming baths ...	0	0	0

### Sanitary circumstances of the Area.

#### *House and trade refuse :*

Portable ashbins in use and emptied by the Council ...	8,100
Premises visited for collection of trade refuse ...	48
Premises visited for collection of salvage ...	174

#### *Nightsoil :*

Pail closets emptied by Council weekly ...	866
Pail closets emptied by Council twice weekly ...	439
Closet sumps emptied by Council ...	0
Cesspools emptied by Council ...	57
Water closets in area ...	6,129

#### *Conversions :*

Pail closets converted to water carriage system during the year ...	74
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### Section 75, Public Health Act, 1936.

#### Provision of Dustbins by Local Authority.

Ninety-four new dustbins were provided and seven statutory notices were served. It was not necessary however to take legal proceedings. Since 1949 it has been the practice to serve a notice on the owner of the property to provide a dustbin within twenty-eight days. Should he default, the local authority provides the bin and charges the sum of five shillings per year recoverable through the general rate fund. The charge to be levied in perpetuity in respect of the property concerned.

An alarming increase in the cost of dustbins obtained by the Council took place from 23/6 in January to 37/6 in December. This is having the effect of encouraging householders to favour



the principle of the Council providing the bin ; the obvious reason, of course, being that they are provided with a bin on hire purchase system of five shillings per year opposed to an expenditure of anything up to 50/-, the approximate retail purchase price of B.S.S. type dustbin.

Apart from the increased work occasioned in the rates department, the system was working well at the end of the year. Nine owners requested me to supply twenty-five dustbins on the Council's bin hire scheme, bringing the total to forty-six bins having been supplied to fourteen owners.

### Complaints for 1955.

Absence of boiler lids	...	...	1
coals accommodation	...	...	1
dry areas	...	...	2
damp-proof courses	...	...	14
doors	...	...	2
door frames	...	...	1
door furniture	...	...	1
eavesgutters	...	...	31
front boards to pan closet seats	...	...	2
electric light	...	...	1
handrails to stairs	...	...	9
inspection chamber covers	...	...	6
inspection chamber frames	...	...	6
jockey bars	...	...	5
proper drainage	...	...	31
proper paving	...	...	25
rainwater downspouts	...	...	29
sinks	...	...	1
sink waste pipes	...	...	2
sink waste drainage	...	...	1
sash cords	...	...	13
threshold strips	...	...	14
weatherboards	...	...	20
window furniture	...	...	15
Accumulation of ashes	...	...	32
manure	...	...	1
Animals improperly kept :			
fowls	...	...	1
dogs	...	...	1
Choked drains	...	...	22
Dampness to houses	...	...	166
Dangerous wells	...	...	1
Dangerous boundary walls	...	...	3
Defective boilers	...	...	21

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*Carried forward* 481

		<i>Brought forward</i>	481
Defective boiler lids	...	...	15
brickwork to firebacks	...	...	11
brickwork	..	...	43
ceiling plaster	...	...	97
cement fillets	...	...	9
cement reveals	...	...	8
cement rendering	...	...	11
chimney pots	...	...	11
chimney stacks	....	...	16
cooking ranges	...	...	15
coppers	...	...	8
doors	...	...	40
door frames	...	...	22
door furniture	...	...	12
door steps	...	...	15
drains	...	...	15
dustbins	...	...	94
eavesgutters	...	...	37
firebars	...	...	9
firegrates	...	...	24
flashings	...	...	42
floors	...	...	31
floor joists	...	...	1
flues	...	...	4
fireplace surrounds	...	...	4
inspection chamber covers	...	...	4
inspection chamber frames	...	...	4
jockey bars	...	...	3
jockey bar supports	...	...	4
lintels	...	...	3
midfeathers in flue	...	...	6
mantelshelves	...	...	2
ovens	...	...	9
oven cheeks	...	...	8
pan closet seats	...	...	3
pan closet front boards	...	...	5
paving	...	...	29
pointing	...	...	77
putty work to windows	...	...	8
rainwater downspouts	...	...	33
rising mains	..	...	22
roofs	...	...	111
sanitary pans	...	...	12
sinks	...	...	7
sink waste gullies	...	...	4
		<i>Carried forward</i>	1429

		<i>Brought forward</i>	1429
Defective sink waste pipes	...	...	15
skirting boards	...	...	3
stair treads	...	...	9
taps	...	...	4
threshold strips	...	...	6
wall plaster	...	...	144
waste water preventors	...	...	17
W.C. pedestals	...	...	8
W.C. pedestal joints	...	...	4
W.C. seats	...	...	1
weatherboards	...	...	6
windows	...	...	41
window frames	...	...	49
window furniture	...	...	14
window cords	...	...	30
window reveals	...	...	12
Cesspools overflowing	...	...	1
Dilapidated coalhouses	...	...	11
Dilapidated pan closet buildings	...	...	34
Dilapidated scullery (lean to)	...	...	1
Dustbins not emptied	...	...	30
Dustbins not returned	...	...	12
Dustbin lids missing	...	...	2
Dirty W.C. pedestals	...	...	2
Filthy premises	...	...	5
Flooded yards, passages, etc.	...	...	3
Flooded cellars	...	...	2
General defects	...	...	37
Inadequate water supply	...	...	5
Insufficient ventilation	...	...	22
Inefficient damp-proof courses	...	...	21
Larder floors belows ground level	...	...	15
Noise nuisances	...	...	2
Obnoxious smells	...	...	21
Pans not emptied	...	...	5
Smoke nuisances	...	...	19
Vermin :			
Fleas	...	...	1
Ants	...	...	4
Beetles	...	...	24
Bugs	...	...	8
Rats	...	...	66
Mice	...	...	6
Wastage of Water	...	...	24
Diesel Oil seepage	...	...	1
		<i>Carried forward</i>	2176



		<i>Brought forward</i>	2176
Overcrowding	...	...	3
Salvage not collected	...	...	10
Improper containers for refuse	...	...	1
External decorations	...	...	6
Unsatisfactory urinals	...	...	1
			<hr/> 2197 <hr/>

### Notification of Defects, etc., to Surveyor.

Matters coming to my notice, either by observation or by complaint, requiring the attention of the Surveyor, were passed on to him. These matters chiefly concerned Council house defects, water supply, sewers and sewage nuisances; 103 such instances are recorded in my day-book. We do everything possible to assist in inter-departmental co-operation.

### Public Health Act, 1936.

#### Part 2 - Sanitation and Buildings (Sections 14-90).

*Sewage scheme for the district.*—During the year, my Council took positive action in the preparation of a scheme for submission to the Ministry. Progress will be noted in the Surveyor's Report. Meanwhile, it is my constant endeavour to reduce the number of pail closets in the district. One realises, however, that owing to the inadequacy of the existing sewers and sewage works, much overloading is being caused, resulting in sewage nuisances and consequent pollution of rivers and streams. It is to be hoped that the Ministry will give favourable consideration to our sewage scheme when submitted. It is a matter of grave concern to officials that in the year 1955 we are still saddled with nearly two thousand pail closets and an obsolete system of sewers and inadequate sewage works.

*Public convenience, Nottingham Road, Somercotes.*—My remarks in previous reports still apply. The provision of satisfactory and sufficient public sanitary conveniences for the use of both sexes in a village the size of Somercotes is long overdue.

*Deosan factory.*—We have again experienced difficulty in disposing of the trade refuse in the form of straw from the Deosan factory, Riddings. The straw has been used as packing straw in carboy baskets, and we are having to dispose of as much as thirty tons per month. The only method we can employ is that of incineration. In view of the new Clean Air Bill, some other satisfactory method of disposal will have to be found.

*Outcrop sites.*—We have had very few serious complaints during the year, but the complaint causing us the greatest concern has been from householders in the vicinity of opencast

workings. Complaints have been made and investigated, concerning appalling clouds of dust from coal sites within a few feet of domestic premises. These householders who have sunk their hard-earned capital into their dwellings, find that drag lines with such pet names as *Big Bertha*, etc., are operating literally over the garden fence. I have been called in by irate property owners and shown over owner-occupied houses where white stone-dust has been blown through cracks and crevices in doors and window frames (even though doors and windows were tightly closed) to such an extent, that a deposit of fine dust has covered everything. Open food on larder shelves one hundred yards or more from the site has been rendered unfit for human consumption.

Complaints to the Ministry brought little satisfaction. I am of the opinion that those responsible ought to ensure that adequate steps are taken to see that people forced to live near such sites can do so at least under tolerable conditions.

*Gas leakages into drains and sewers.*—One of the hazards of living in a mining area is the danger of subsidence, and its effects on mains, drains and sewers. A serious gas leakage occurred in the sewer in Independent Hill, Alfreton, resulting in an infiltration of gas to certain dwellings in Alfred Street. The leakage was quickly traced and subsequently remedied by the East Midlands Gas Board. Several other minor leakages and defects were given early attention by the Board.

*Bamfords' Factory, Lower Birchwood.*—A sewage nuisance was detected and abated, due to an installation of w.c.'s at the premises of Messrs. E. E. Bamford on the Birchwood Colliery site, the effluent being discharged into a pond owned by the Council. The nuisance was abated.

*Cromford Canal, Golden Valley.*—It is pleasing to report that not one complaint was received concerning the smell from the Cromford canal. The cesspools installed by the National Coal Board at their Golden Valley property are responsible for this improvement. Nevertheless, I am still not entirely satisfied. I would like to see the bed of the canal dredged and cleared of refuse in the form of old buckets, bath tins, etc. I understand that the property owners adjoining the canal have certain rights of drainage, etc., but I would like to see the canal culverted, covered and levelled, from the top of the steps of Golden Valley to the deeper water beyond the property owned by the National Coal Board. The canal can never be used or made navigable unless the Cromford tunnel is rebuilt. Perhaps it may be possible to persuade the Inland Waterways Department of the British Railways to co-operate in this matter.



## Filthy or Verminous Premises or Articles and Verminous Persons.

*Sections 83-86.*

Of the five cases of filthy and/or verminous houses which came to my notice, four of these were council-owned property. Drastic action was taken by the Council and expulsion threatened. As a consequence, publicity was given to this matter in the national press, several visits were made, and it is true to say that in three cases a decided improvement in the conditions had been effected. In two cases, however, vigilance will be necessary. I regret to say that I despair of the remaining case, the tenant of a privately-owned house. To my knowledge these people have always been filthy, and intend to remain so, despite action by the Council. They appear to prefer to live in filth, and that quite unashamedly. We can only keep the case in mind, and visit them from time to time, serving notices, and enforcing cleansing at regular intervals.

Many premises are disinfested at the request of the owner or occupier, who pays for the service.

Insecticides are sold to ratepayers at cost price, enabling them to eradicate cockroaches and other pests. The charge for the service, in my view, acts as a stimulus to make an effort to keep down the pests.

*Inspection of houses occupied by prospective tenants of Council houses.*—193 visits were made and a little friendly advice given to prospective council house tenants.

*Department of Scientific and Industrial Research*—Once again I must thank the officer in charge of the Infestation Branch of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research for valuable assistance so readily given. One specimen only was submitted and identified as follows :-

Plaster beetle (*coninomus nodifer*).

The infestation caused grave concern to the owner-occupier of a new house, but he and his wife were greatly relieved that they were in no way injurious to man or animals or to houses and their contents. Two applications of a suitable wash had the desired effect, helped by the drying out of the walls by the ventilation and heating of the premises.

## Nuisances.

### Part 3. Sections 91-110.

As required, systematic inspections of the district have been carried out for the detection and abatement of nuisances. It will be noted that :-

1,836 visits and inspections have been made  
2,197 defects were noted  
201 informal notices and  
37 legal notices served.



The Clerk and I co-operate to obviate Court proceedings if at all possible and every opportunity is given to a defaulting owner or other individual to fulfil his or her obligations before legal proceedings are instituted. All nuisances were abated before the cases were brought into Court.

### Smoke Nuisances.

Smoke and dust nuisances occurred at factories in the district during the year. Complaints were immediately investigated and nuisances abated. Considerable improvements have been effected at the local collieries; so far as the appearance of the yards and approaches are concerned and the National Coal Board is to be congratulated in this respect. One can look forward to the promised electrification of the local collieries and the abatement of smoke nuisances caused by the overloading of existing boiler plants.

The three conical spoil banks in the district are a constant source of nuisance and an eyesore.

The promised Clean Air Bill will no doubt enable local authorities to take some more positive action. It is not outside the bounds of possibility that some other form of dealing with mining waste will be evolved in the not too distant future. Why should these scars have to remain to mar our landscape, in some instances for a decade after a colliery has been worked out?

Several small installations in factories have been changed over to underfeed stoking methods, and with the use of washed fuel and coke, have resulted in a decided improvement in the amount of atmospheric pollution.

The quarterly meetings of the Divisional Committee of the National Smoke Abatement Society have been well attended and of great interest. The subjects discussed have been topical in the light of impending legislation. Five meetings were held as follows:

Mansfield, 13th January, when a discussion was introduced on the report of the Committee on Air Pollution;

Bolsover, 31st March, a visit to the coalite works.

Appleby-Frodingham Steel Company, 19th May, including a visit to ore preparation—sintering and blast furnace plant—steel making in tilting open hearth furnaces. The mill rolling blooms and sections. This was followed by an address on "Air Pollution in Relation the manufacture of Iron and Steel." As we have an iron works in this area, this visit to what is possibly one of the most up-to-date plants in the world, made the visit an invaluable one;

Stanton Ironworks, 7th July. On this occasion the Annual General Meeting of the Division was held at the Ironworks;

Leicester, 3rd November, Mr. G. Hiller, Chief Sanitary Inspector of Leicester, presented a paper on "The Provisions of the Clean Air Bill" followed by discussion.

The Chairman of the Public Health Committee and I have greatly benefited by attending the Divisional Meetings and I place on record our thanks for this privilege.

### **Offensive Trade**

We have only one such establishment in the area owned by Messrs. S Walters and Sons, Tripe Dressers of George Street, Riddings.

In my last Annual Report I referred to the closing down of these premises, and to the state of disrepair into which the buildings fell. During the latter part of the year, unsuccessful attempts were made to sell the premises and finally it was decided to approach me with a request to make an inspection and indicate my requirements. This coincided with the advance information of the proposals to be embodied in the proposed Food Hygiene Regulations and I accordingly had the premises brought up to this desired standard. The premises are again in use and a very satisfactory result obtained.

### **Part 4. Water Supply.**

*Sections 111—142.*

See Surveyor's Report.

### **Part 5. Prevention, Notification and Treatment of Infectious Diseases.**

During the year, at the request of the Medical Officer of Health, 17 visits have been made to infected premises. A visit is paid, enquiries made, and disinfection is carried out, following removal to hospital, or recovery of the patient.

A bottle of disinfectant is left for preliminary soaking of infected bedding and clothing prior to washing. The method of disinfection is by formaldehyde sprays. An instruction leaflet is left at the house as to precautions to be taken in cases of infectious disease and to prevent the spread of infection. In certain instances infected bedding, etc., is sent to Morton isolation hospital for steam disinfection.

### **Part 9. Common Lodging Houses.**

*Sections 235-248.*

There is only one common lodging house in the area. This is frequently visited and is well kept by the owner, Mr. W. Davis, under his personal supervision. The rooms are clean, well ventilated and the walls and ceilings are painted to facilitate cleansing at the prescribed intervals. Cooking facilities



and washing accommodation are satisfactory, all beds clean and comfortable. No complaints were received during the year.

### **Watercourses, Ditches and Ponds.**

Complaints inevitably arise from the fact that our overloaded sewers and sewage works are inadequate for the purpose they serve and in periods of heavy rain, pollution occurs. The Ministry will no doubt keep this fact in mind when our sewerage scheme is presented, probably during the coming year.

### **Moveable Dwellings.**

*Sections 268-269.*

At the end of the year we have nineteen moveable dwellings on nine sites. All are licensed, the licences being reviewed every twelve months. Those granted have the usual conditions attached to each. We, in common with most local authorities, have our problem of providing suitable sites for the young married couples who, rather than live with parents, prefer to set up a home in a caravan.

Caravan sites naturally create their particular problems and require constant supervision. Nuisances arise and are expeditiously dealt with.

### **Inspection of Offices (Workplaces).**

Twenty-three visits have been made to offices in the area. Attention has been focussed on the provision of suitable, satisfactory and sufficient sanitary accommodation for the use of both sexes, also heating, lighting, ventilation and general amenity. Secondary means of escape in case of fire was provided in one instance.

### **Places of Public Entertainment.**

*Public Health (Amendment ) Act, 1890, Section 51.  
Circular 120, Ministry of Health.*

The usual routine inspections of all places of public entertainment have been carried out during the year. There are five cinemas in the district as follows :-

Odeon Theatre, Alfreton.

Empire Theatre, Alfreton.

Premier Theatre, Somercotes.

Empire Theatre, Somercotes.

Regent Cinema, Riddings (temporarily closed).

The latter cinema is in a very dilapidated state, and I feel sure much work of repair and renovation will be required before it could be re-opened.



In addition, four halls where public dances are held :-

Astoria Ballroom, Alfreton.

Drill Hall, Alfreton.

Somercotes Church Hall.

Leabrooks Miners' Welfare.

Occasional dances are also held in various schoolrooms in the area, and all are well suited for the purpose from all points of view. All places of entertainment have been well maintained during the year, and have been regularly and systematically inspected. The usual certificates have been issued to the theatre managers as to sanitary conditions of the premises prior to their application to the licensing justices for renewal of licences.

### Licensed Premises.

There are 42 licensed houses in the urban area, situated as follows : Alfreton 18, Somercotes 9, Leabrooks 2, Swanwick 4, Ironville 1, Pye Bridge 1, Riddings 6, Golden Valley 1. Every effort has been made to raise the standard of accommodation provided, and it has again been my privilege to co-operate with the police and licensing justices to this desirable end. The following premises have been improved :-

*Moulders' Arms, Riddings.* Alterations and improvements to living accommodation. Provision of satisfactory sanitary accommodation for both sexes.

*Boot and Slipper, Swanwick.* Representations were made to the Brewery company with regard to the unsatisfactory lavatory accommodation at these premises. Early attention to this matter was promised by the company on 3rd November.

*The Gate Inn, Swanwick.* Improvements to living accommodation ; provision of private sanitary accommodation and for both sexes in the public premises was carried out early in the year. The substitution of water closets and the abolition of the earth closets was a very desirable improvement. The laying of the new connection to the sewer in Hickton Road for the benefit of Swanwick Hayes made the conversion possible. Other improvements included yard paving.

*Red Lion Hotel, Riddings.* Plans have been presented and approved for the provision of suitable and satisfactory lavatory accommodation at these premises. An early commencement of work is anticipated.

*Greenhill Hotel, Riddings.* The above remarks equally apply. The removal of the unsatisfactory outbuildings at these premises and the provision of parking facilities will remove an eyesore, as the open space at the rear of these premises provides a dumping ground for general refuse, etc.

The three commercial hotels, viz.: King Alfred, Castle and George Hotels have been well maintained during the year, and expert advisory services are made use of by the licensees. Routine inspections are made, and it is to the credit of all licensees that not one complaint has been received by the department with regard to the service given to the public during the year.

### **Rats and Mice Destruction Act, 1919.**

*The Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.*

*The Prevention of Damage by Pests (Threshing and Dismantling) Regulations, 1950,*

*Rats and Mice Destruction Order, 1943 and Ministry of Food and Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries Circulars.*

As stated in previous reports the department is responsible for a continuous effort to control the rodent and other pest nuisances in the district. Seventy-two complaints were received and the majority of these were from householders living near poultry keepers. All complaints are quickly followed up and baiting carried out. As our tips are worked by controlled tipping methods, a hole is quickly noticed and gassed. No legal action has been necessary during the year under review.

I am obliged to the Infestation Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Nottingham, and also to the officials of the Derbyshire Agricultural Executive Committee for their ready co-operation in dealing with complaints re rabbits. I am also obliged for the information received re persons in the area holding contracts for routine treatments. At the present time only one person holds such a contract, viz., R. Hool, The Green Farm, Swanwick.

Only one meeting of the Derbyshire Rodent Control Group was held and this took place on the 10th November, 1955, at Chesterfield Town Hall. At this meeting, I again expressed the opinion I first voiced at Belper on the 4th December, 1952, that the use of Warfarin in sewers is a most successful method. The opinion expressed by the Ministry representatives was, that as the bait must be kept dry, this would hardly be possible in sewers; it would also mean that the manholes would have to be visited over longer periods.

I do not agree with this view, as my experience proves that if rats are present, Warfarin appears to be so successful a bait that it does not remain long enough to deteriorate - become unpalatable or mouldy. I again raised this question as I find colleagues like myself are beginning to express this view and wonder why the Ministry does not alter its opinion in the light of experience. The reply on this occasion was that with Warfarin, the time factor was important. Rats must eat over several days and Warfarin went mouldy quickly in the sewers,



becoming unpalatable to the rats. I still do not agree with this, and I share the opinion of several of my colleagues that Warfarin is the most successful bait for use in sewer treatments.

If we use other baits we still have to pre-bait and use bread, cereals, etc., as a base - are they not affected by moisture in sewers? "The proof of the pudding is in the eating," and the same applies to the successful "takes" in sewer treatments, and Warfarin or Tomorin has it every time. There does not appear to be a poison prejudice created as with other types of poison and maybe in this fact we find the answer.

During the year the following work has been carried out by my department :-

*Sewer treatment.*—Number of inspection chambers inspected for rats in which treatments have been carried out are as follows :-

		<i>First treatment</i>	<i>Second treatment</i>
Alfreton ...	...	130	26
Somercotes	...	99	10
Pye Bridge	...	3	2
Swanwick ...	...	30	9
Riddings ...	...	33	10
Codnor Park	...	—	9
Golden Valley	...	—	3
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		295	69
Total	...	364	

*Sewage works.*—All sewage works have been visited during the year and the following have received treatment :-

Alfreton	3	Riddings	3	Codnor Park	2
Somercotes	2	Swanwick	1	Birchwood	2
Highfields	2	Newlands	3	Pye Bridge	2

83 visits have been made to sewage works and Council premises and 25 treatments given ; 234 visits were made to private dwellings and 60 treatments given ; 84 visits were made to business premises and 23 treatments given.

Total number of visits made during the year :-

Sewer inspection chambers	...	364
Sewage works	... ..	83
Other visits, including farms during threshing operations		318
		<hr/>
Total	...	765

Refuse tips and salvage depots are under constant observation.



## Housing Act, 1936.

During the year the following work has been carried out :-

	<i>With state assistance</i>	<i>Unaided</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>Houses erected :</i>			
(a) by local authority ...	86	—	86
(b) by other bodies and persons ...	—	37	37
<i>Houses under erection :</i>			
(a) by local authority ...	44	—	44
(b) by other bodies and persons ...	—	44	44
<i>Inspection of dwelling houses :</i>			
Number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health and Housing Acts)...			133
Number of dwelling houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ...			3
Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ...			32
Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of action (formal or informal) by the local authority ...			133
Number of dwelling houses in respect of which demolition orders were made ...			32
Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders ...			16
Number of persons displaced ...			0
Number of dwelling houses in respect of which undertakings were accepted ...			3
Number of persons displaced ...			17
Number of dwelling houses in respect of which undertakings were determined ...			0
Number of premises in respect of which closing orders were made ...			0
Number of applications for improvement grants approved by the Council (houses involved) ...			28
Number of dwelling houses improved during the year ...			16

### *Messrs. James Oakes & Co. (Riddings) Ltd.*

The following works of improvement have been carried out during the year by the estate department on property owned by the company :-

Modern tiled fireplaces ...	1
Combined cooking grates ...	3
Hot water systems and airing cupboard ...	4
Gas washing coppers ...	7
Deep sinks with drainers and tiled surrounds	5
Conversions from pans to w.c.'s ...	6
Electric wiring ...	13
Gas water heaters ...	3

## Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954.

*Certificates of disrepair.* Applications were received from and certificates of disrepair issued to tenants of :-

52 and 53 Sleetmoor Lane, Somercotes  
34 Newlands Road, Riddings  
"Montrose" and "Shirley," New Street, Swanwick  
13 Ley Gardens, Alfreton  
16, 18, 19 Alma Street, Alfreton

Works of repair were carried out and certificates were cancelled in respect of :-

5, 6, 7, 9 Leabrooks Road, Somercotes  
52 and 53 Sleetmoor Lane, Somercotes  
34 Newlands Road, Riddings  
"Montrose" and "Shirley," New Street, Swanwick

Works of repair were in progress at the end of the year at 16, 18, 19 Alma Street Alfreton.

## Petroleum Acts, 1871-1928.

### Cellulose Solutions Regulations, 1934.

No. of licences issued to store petroleum during 1955	...	48
No. of licences issued to store carbide during 1955	...	1
Total storage capacity of petroleum spirit	...	72,000 galls.
Total storage capacity of carbide of calcium	...	1,000 lbs.
Fees collected in respect of petroleum licences	...	£ 36
Fees collected in respect of carbide licences	...	5/-

Certificates were issued to the following :-

- (1) to store up to 60 gallons of cellulose solutions :-  
Mr. R. S. Dawes, Victoria Street, Somercotes,  
Mr. T. Roguszka, Peel's Yard, King Street, Alfreton.
- (2) to store up to 60 gallons of petroleum spirit :-  
Messrs. James Oakes & Co (Riddings) Ltd.

A licence to store 1,000 gallons of cellulose was issued to :-  
Remploy Ltd., Alfreton.

During the year new tanks were installed at the following premises :-

Power (Somercotes) Ltd., Nottingham Road, Somercotes.

All underground tanks are subjected to an air pressure of 5 lbs. per sq. in. before approval. Chambers in 9 in. brickwork are insisted upon, and a minimum of 9 in. of sand surrounding the tank.

## Factories Act, 1937 and 1948.

No certificates of adequate means of escape in case of fire have been issued during the year. With the exception of H.M.B. Manufacturing Co. Ltd., and Ripley Metalcraft Ltd., Somercotes, all factories in the area have been inspected, plans prepared, showing



all details of compliance with the Acts. Certificates will be issued to the above companies as soon as plans have been prepared and the issue of certificates authorised. Our method has always been to inspect, indicate our requirements to managements, have three copies of plans prepared and necessary work carried out. The approval of the council is then sought and the certificate of adequacy drawn up in triplicate - original sent to occupier of factory, duplicate to H.M. Inspector of Factories, and triplicate retained by the Department.

Work is now in progress at H.M.B. Manufacturing Co. Ltd., Somercotes, on the provision of secondary means of escape. An early inspection of the premises of Ripley Metalcraft will be made in 1956 and certificates issued. As female staff is being employed by the James Engineering Co. Ltd., Alfreton, separate lavatory and toilet facilities have been requested.

The Surveyor collaborates with the Department by submitting all plans of factories to me for my perusal prior to planning permission being granted. Our system appears to work very well indeed.

Deletions from and additions to the list of factories and workplaces coming to my notice have been passed on to H.M. Inspector of Factories. The register is absolutely up-to-date at all times.

#### Register of Factories, 31.12.55.

Aerated water	...	1	Leather dressing	...	1
Bakeries	...	7	Letter printing	...	3
Boots	...	1	Machine repairs	...	1
Boot repairs	...	5	Machine tools	...	1
Brickmaking	...	1	Metal scrap cutting	...	1
Builders' supplies	...	1	Metal scrap, papersorting		1
Chemicals	...	3	Motor vehicle repairs		14
Concrete blocks	...	1	Net mending	...	1
Corsets	...	1	Prefab building material		1
Dresses	...	3	Sausage, meat pies, etc.		8
Electrical repairs	...	2	Sawmills	...	1
Engineering	...	6	Sheet metalwork	...	1
Flooring	...	1	Subsidiary Companies:		
Fly-papers, soap, etc.,		1	Miscellaneous dept.	...	1
Gas	...	2	Oxygen dept.	...	1
Hosiery	...	3	Underwear	...	3
Ironfounding	...	1	Vehicle demolition	...	3
Iron rolling mills	...	1	Vehicle painting and		
Joinery	...	10	cellulosing		1
Ladies outwear	...	1	Wagon building	...	1
Laundry	...	1	Woodwork'g machinery		1

Total 98.



## Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

### *Part 1. General provisions and sale of food and drugs.*

#### *Sections 1-7.*

Sampling of food and drugs is undertaken by the County Council as the food and drugs authority. Mr. R. W. Sutton, B.Sc., F.I.C., F.C.S., the county analyst, has kindly supplied me with information of such work carried out by his department during the year, as follows :-

Ninety-nine samples, including 55 milks, were taken under the above Act in the area of the Alfreton Urban District Council during the year 1955, but no serious adulteration was encountered. Two samples of milk (one T.T. and one T.T. pasteurised) contained small amounts of added water, and one sample (T.T.) was deficient in fat. One informal sample of ice cream was deficient in milk solids. These irregularities were dealt with by caution notice.

A milk bottle containing a deposit was submitted for examination. This deposit was found to consist substantially of rye starch and ground rice - common ingredients of blancmange mixtures, table creams, etc. These mixtures often contain small amounts of gelatine or gum which would tend to make the solid stick to a bottle surface and not be easily removable in washing operations.

#### **Voluntary Surrender of Unsound Food.      Sections 8 - 12.**

We are still maintaining our system of bringing all condemned foodstuffs, excepting meat, to the Council's depot at Leabrooks, where it is satisfactorily disposed of.

The following is the list of foodstuffs voluntarily surrendered by traders during the year.

Condemned Food.				lbs.	ozs.
1 tin	Jaffa juice	...	...		12
18 "	Cherries	...	...	10	12
18 "	Grapefruit	...	...	21	2½
2 "	Loganberries	...	...	1	15
3 "	Bananas	...	...	3	12
30 "	Oranges	...	...	21	7
44 "	Strawberries	...	...	29	9½
78 "	Pears ...	...	...	105	10
69 "	Peaches	...	...	95	6
61 "	Pineapple	...	...	64	1
17 "	Fruit salad	...	...	19	1
68 "	Apricots	...	...	110	7
26 "	Raspberries	...	...	15	15½
8 "	Blackberries	...	...	6	9½
8 "	Figs ...	...	...	7	8
11 "	Gooseberries	...	...	11	3½
<i>Carried forward</i>				525	3½

		<i>Brought forward</i>	...	525	3½
1	tin	Pineapple juice	...	1	3
3	„	Apple sauce	...	12	9½
5	„	Grapes	...	5	—
9	„	Plums	...	8	12
1	„	Prunes	...	7	—
4	„	Blackcurrants	...	3	2
3	„	Damsons	...	3	14
76	„	Evaporated milk	...	64	15
5	„	Cream	...	1	8
6	„	Tomato juice	...	10	12
42	„	Tomato soup	...	36	5½
1	„	Kidney soup	...	—	15½
1	„	Mushroom soup	...	—	8
1	„	Vegetable soup	...	1	15½
2	jars	Beetroot	...	1	8
1	tin	Broad beans	...	1	—
1	„	Butter beans	...	—	15½
1	jar	Red cabbage	...		10
9	tins	Carrots	...	12	9
86	„	Peas ...	...	87	7¼
1	jar	Mint sauce	...		6
51	tins	Baked beans	...	42	12
454	„	Tomatoes	...	710	13
14	„	Ham ...	...	94	9
1	„	Broth ...	...		10
1	„	Steak pudding	...		8
Bacon		...	...	18	—
1	„	Lunch tongue	...	6	—
17	„	Corned beef and gravy	...	16	7½
1	„	Pork butts	...	3	5
1	„	Beef ...	...	4	—
4	jars	Ox tongue and beef	...	1	2
32	tins	Luncheon meat	...	34	14
27	„	Stewed steak	...	25	3½
13	„	Ox tongue	...	73	4
18	„	Corned beef	...	57	—
6	„	Pork luncheon meat	...	12	4
4	„	Jellied veal	...	16	12
3	„	Chicken	...	11	4
5	„	Minced beef loaf	...	4	4
1	„	Fresh stew	...	1	—
1	„	Lambs tongue	...		12
3	„	Tongue	...	6	9½
Sausage		...	...	73	6
1	„	Beef steak in gravy	...	4	—
<i>Carried forward</i>				2006	14¾

	<i>Brought forward</i>	... 2006	14 $\frac{3}{4}$
2 tins	Steak luncheon meat	... 2	—
2 „	Pork ...	... 4	12
2 „	Braised kidney	... 1	9
4 „	Gammon	... 57	12
2 stone	Cod fish	... 28	—
2 tins	Tuna fish	...	13 $\frac{1}{2}$
2 „	Corned beef and cereal	... 18	—
1 „	Smoked saithe	...	4
6 „	Sardines	... 1	5 $\frac{1}{4}$
10 „	Pilchards	... 8	12
3 „	Rock lobster	...	15 $\frac{1}{2}$
25	Fish Fingers	... 3	7
6 tins	Crab ...	... 2	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
1 „	Crab paste	...	7
15 „	Salmon	... 7	10 $\frac{3}{4}$
4 „	Cray fish	... 1	10
26	Cartons	... 6	8
	Cheshire cheese	... 14	—
	2 pkts. Cheese spread	...	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
	Cheddar cheese	... 58	—
	2 pkts. Biscuits	... 1	—
	Angel cake	... 49	8
	Dundee cake	... 2	8
	1 tin Bournvita	...	12
	1 pkt. Blanc mange powder	...	4
	1 tin Macaroni	...	8
	3 pkts. Dog biscuits	... 1	8
	2 tins Instant postum	...	8
	1 „ Creamed rice	... 1	—
	7 „ Snacks	... 3	8
	3 bottles Tomato ketchup	... 1	8
	1 pkt. Butter	...	8
	1 tin Baby food	...	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
	1 „ Spaghetti	... 1	—
	63 bags Nuts ...	... 6	11
	79 bars Chocolate	... 11	12
Total		2308	4 $\frac{1}{4}$

I am pleased to report that no seizures of diseased meat or other food have been necessary during the year.

### **Food and Drugs Act, 1938. Sections 13-15.**

*Precautions against Contamination of Food.*

*Inspection and Supervision of Food Supply.*

The year marked the appearance of the draft of the new Food and Drugs Act, 1955, and the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955,



which are to come into force in January, 1956. These formed the great topic of interest amongst my colleagues in the latter part of the year. Mr. Morley Parry, the Hygiene Advisory Officer to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food came to speak to us at the week-end school held at Swanwick Hayes in November, when he took as his subject "Food hygiene - what next?"

The discussion following his talk was an indication of the tremendous interest being taken in this subject by sanitarians throughout the country. My council agreed to the circulation amongst food traders and handlers of food, of a summary of the important provisions of the food hygiene regulations. It will be our endeavour to implement this legislation as quickly as possible, having regard of course to the extreme pressure of work on the department in general.

*Clean food campaigns.* No Clean Food Exhibition was held during the year, but a campaign to improve the general standard of food handling is constantly being waged. Posters supplied by the Ministry re precautions to be taken by food handlers were supplied to all factory and school canteens in the district. I would very much like to put on another Clean Food Exhibition such as was held in 1948, but this is out of the question owing to the time to be taken in the preparation of such a project.

I have pleasure in recording that no cases of extraneous matter in food (excluding milk) occurred during the year.

*Food shops.* As in the previous year, further improvements have been made in food premises, and several shops have been modernised, including Ripley Co-operative Society branch shop, Prospect Street, Alferton, and Hunters' branch shops at Riddings and Somercotes.

*Meat purveyors.* The continued improvement in butchers' shops gives us cause for satisfaction but not complacency.

*Food premises - cafes, canteens, etc.* Whilst there are one or two unsatisfactory premises which are to be dealt with under the new legislation, food premises in the area are, in the main, satisfactory. Food traders as a whole are beginning to realise that the old-fashioned ideas and methods of food handling will not do in this progressive age. The trend is towards hygienic handling and displaying of food. I feel quite sure that the time is not far distant when open food exposed for sale will be a thing of the past. The future trend is surely towards the hygienic wrapping of food in cellophane containers, both before and after cooking.

*Ice cream (heat treatment, etc.) Regulations, 1947 to 1952.* During the year all premises in which ice cream is manufactured, stored and sold have been subjected to regular inspection. Ice cream parlours are provided where loose ice cream is sold.

All conservators from which ice cream is sold are provided with *Stowell* protective covers to prevent misuse of the conservators and possible contamination. All premises registered must be suitably

lighted and ventilated, and have satisfactory washing facilities, hot and cold water, clean towels and soap available. Manufacturers' premises in the area are most up-to-date and their products are manufactured under hygienic conditions.

During the year five food traders applied for registration of their premises for the sale of ice cream.

The following are the details of registration under the Food and Drugs Acts, 1938 :-

Manufacturers (also registered for the sale of loose ice cream)	...	...	...	6
Retailers for the sale of loose ice cream	...			9
Retailers for the sale of pre-packed ice cream	...			66
				<hr/>
				81

Certificates of registration have been issued to the following during the year :-

*For storage and sale :-*

Messrs. J. F. Rodgers & Co., Lower Somercotes  
 Mrs. E. Wild, 16 Market Street, Ironville  
 P. Taylor, 102 High Street, Riddings  
 Messrs. J. Burton & Sons, Ltd., 8 Market Place, Alfreton  
 A. Dawes, 6 Quarry Road, Somercotes

*Cancelled :* E. Todkill, 18 High Street, Alfreton

*Fried fish shops.* There are nineteen fried fish shops in the area. These have been regularly inspected. All have been particularly well kept, and there has been no cause for complaint. Applications for the establishment of new businesses are submitted to the Town Planning Officer for his observations.

*Not now selling :-*

Gregory, Mansfield Road, Alfreton  
 Hill, C., Leabrooks Road, Somercotes  
 Parkin, D., Charles Street,  
 Wood, Mrs. G., Greenhill Lane, Riddings  
 Fincham, K., The Green, Swanwick

*Alfreton Market.* Last year I drew the attention of the council to the absence of sufficient and satisfactory toilet arrangements for both sexes, including the provision of hot water.

Early in February, 1955, I received a complaint from a prominent ratepayer with regard to stallholders on the market selling biscuits on the market without having the means of cleansing their hands. The complainant, having premises near the market, had been permitting these people to use his tap on the mains, and he informed me that he was withdrawing these facilities by taking the top off the water tap. He accused the council of having the dirtiest market in the Midlands - being without toilets or washing facilities. At the end of the year nothing has yet been done in the matter.



## Milk Supply.

*Milk and Dairies Acts and Orders and Food and Drugs Act, 1938.*  
*Provision as to Milk, Dairies, etc. Sections 28-34.*  
*Food and Drugs (Milk and Dairies) Act, 1944.*

### Sampling :-

19 samples were taken during the year as follows :

			<i>Meth. blue</i>		<i>Phosphatase</i>		<i>Turbidity</i>	
			<i>Sat.</i>	<i>Unsat.</i>	<i>Sat.</i>	<i>Unsat.</i>	<i>Sat.</i>	<i>Unsat.</i>
(a) On complaint.	2	19	18	Nil	14	Nil	Nil	Nil
Routine	17							
			<i>Positive</i>		<i>Negative</i>			
(b) Biological	12		Nil		12			

On Saturday, 8th October, a bottle of T.T. pasteurised milk was brought into my office for my examination. I noticed a white deposit firmly adhering to the inner surface of the bottle. The medical officer and I examined the bottle very closely and took the matter up with the manager of the dairy concerned. He was given an opportunity to inspect the bottle prior to it being taken to the county analyst for examination and report. The only explanation given was that it was thought to be due to the reduction in pressure of water on the town mains due to emergency arrangements introduced by the water board, and in addition possibly due to the adhesive character of the filtering material.

The analyst's report was as follows: "I have examined the deposit in the milk bottle received from you on the 11th of this month and find that it consists substantially of rye starch and ground rice. These constituents may well be derived from one of the food preparations such as blancmange mixtures, table creams, etc., which are sold today. These mixtures often contain small amounts of gum or gelatine, which would tend to make the solid stick to a bottle surface."

*Milk (Special Designation) Order, 1934-1946.*

*Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949 to 1953.*

*Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949 to 1954.*

Supplementary licences were granted by the Council to dealers retailing milk in the Alfreton Urban Area but with dairy premises outside the Urban Area as follows :-

### *Pasteurised milk.*

Ripley Co-operative Society Ltd. (five branches)  
 Codnor Park & Ironville Co-op. Society Ltd. (two branches)  
 G. Paley, Sandham Park Dairy, Ripley

### *Tuberculin tested/pasteurised.*

Ripley Co-operative Society Ltd. (five branches)  
 Codnor Park & Ironville Co-op. Society Ltd. (two branches).



Dealers' licences have been granted to use the special designation tuberculin tested/pasteurised to :-

Seal Bros., "Lily Street" Farm, Alfreton  
H. B. Unwin, "Red Lion" Farm, Riddings  
W. Atkin, "Crossing" Farm, Leabrooks  
B. Aldred, 24 Lower Somercotes  
A. A. Brown, "The Gate" Inn, Nottingham Road, Alfreton  
S. Dean, Laburnam Cottage, Leabrooks  
C. S. Hall, The Bungalow, Sleetmoor Lane, Somercotes  
E. Hoyles, Dresden, Swanwick Road, Leabrooks  
J. E. Gash, 52 West Street, Riddings  
L. Oliver, Eureka, Brenden Avenue, Somercotes  
A. Robinson, The Croft, Park Street, Alfreton  
G. Woodhouse, Linroyd, Leabrooks  
W. R. Ward, Old Hall Farm, Swanwick  
E. O. Morris and A. M. Maskery, 61 Nottm. Rd. Somercotes  
A. E. Jennings, 9 Derby Road, Alfreton  
J. A. Castledine, Beau Vista, 20 Brenden Avenue, Somercotes  
S. Stafford, 40 Prospect Street, Alfreton  
L. W. Fisher, 19 Bank Street, Somercotes  
S. Barlow, Charity Farm, Swanwick  
R. Ingram, The Croft, Park Street, Alfreton  
F. Clough, The Croft, Park Street, Alfreton  
N. E. Bryan, Palmer Farm, Swanwick  
P. M. Swindell, Fletcher's Row, Ironville

### **Meat Inspection.**

*Food and Drugs Act, 1955.*

*Slaughterhouses Act, 1954.*

*Slaughterhouses (Amendment) Act, 1954.*

*Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) (Amendment) Regulations, 1955.*

*Public Health Meat Regulations, 1924-1952.*

*Memo. 3 Meat. Min. of Food Circ. 5/48 C. bovis.*

*Slaughter of Animals Acts, 1933-1954.*

The carcasses and offals of all food animals slaughtered in the fourteen private slaughterhouses in this district are inspected in accordance with the provisions of the above statutes. A notice is exhibited in every slaughterhouse outlining the duties of butchers and slaughtermen under the above statutes.

As I stated in my concluding remarks last year under this heading, every effort has been made to attain one hundred per cent. meat inspection and provide an efficient service. This has almost been attained, but only under very great stress. I regard the provision of such a service as a first essential. According to the Interdepartmental Committee report on Slaughterhouses, we are providing a service sufficient to supply the needs of 130/150,000 population, based on 16,000 cattle units. My council are concerned that we

should have to carry out this service much above our own needs, but we must not forget that a number of butchers in our area are obtaining their meat supplies from the adjoining rural area of Blackwell, and if that meat was not adequately inspected, my council would, I am sure, be very concerned.

In that area my colleagues, like my assistant and I, are working at week-ends and long hours during the week any time between 7.30 a.m. and 11 p.m. to ensure that meat is adequately inspected and fit for human consumption.

A perusal of the figures submitted, which can be substantiated by the butchers themselves, give an indication of the onerous nature of this work. Prior to the war, approximately 2,500 animals were slaughtered annually in the 21 private slaughter-houses. The comparable figures are 16,000 in 14 slaughter-houses. Only those people intimately associated with the service and with the department can truly appreciate the importance of the work. I can well remember when my predecessor resigned in 1942, a councillor stating that when we had been relieved of the duties of meat inspection, "The sanitary inspector does not need an assistant now that meat inspection has been taken away from him." What is the position to-day, when it has returned eight-fold ?

It is not my intention to recapitulate on the mental and physical difficulties under which we have maintained this service during the past year, the facts are too well known to all concerned. My council are fully aware that this work will tend to increase rather than diminish, as plans have been presented for an up-to-date model abattoir designed and constructed by a firm of specialists in this field ; this is to replace a private slaughterhouse handling unsatisfactorily an output of meat far beyond its capacity, in a manner which cannot be permitted to continue. It is no exaggeration to state that there is a full-time job for a qualified meat inspector, working staggered hours up to 10 p.m. in the week including Saturday, and up to 3 p.m. on Sunday.

During the year, meat inspection was carried out by me on the majority of week-ends throughout the year, except during my annual holidays, with only the satisfaction of a job well done as a reward. My application for recognition was turned down in January, 1955. The Ministry have had eighteen months in which to do something to ease the burden or to make the work worth while. It is not in the least surprising that there is a shortage of recruits for this work when such conditions of service prevail. We are not even recognised as Chief Officers, even though many of my colleagues, like myself, are also engaged as Public Cleansing Superintendents.

In the hope that the Ministry will give early consideration to this matter, I register this protest in my annual report. In the meantime, I repeat, every effort will be made by the department to carry out and maintain an efficient meat inspection service no matter what effect that has on other spheres of departmental activity.



The following details co-relate with those given last year and enable a comparison to be made :-

*Meat Inspection out of normal working hours.*

It will be quite obvious to any thinking person, after perusing the statistical tables given below that every effort has been made by the department to carry out and maintain an efficient meat inspection service :-

			<i>Animals killed and inspected</i>			
		<i>Beasts</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Sheep</i>	<i>Total</i>
Alfreton						
1	...	10	—	354	24	388
2	...	97	5	1058	215	1375
3	...	—	—	4	5	9
4	...	41	—	19	—	60
5	...	58	—	64	236	358
Somercotes						
6	...	74	2	1	70	147
7	...	—	—	126	6	132
Leabrooks						
8	...	245	10	425	572	1252
Riddings						
9	...	52	—	59	20	131
10	...	189	3	88	297	577
11	...	38	—	19	158	215
Swanwick						
12	...	1594	59	5181	4235	11069
13	...	70	—	74	287	431
14	...	35	2	2	16	55
Total		2503	81	7474	6141	16199

The following number of animals have been inspected during the period 1st January to 31st December, 1955 :-

Beasts	...	2503
Calves	...	81
Pigs	...	7474
Sheep	...	6141
		<hr/> 16199

During this period the total weight of meat and offal condemned amounted to 13 tons, 18 cwts., 1 qr., 27½ lbs., made up of the following :-

*Beasts - Tuberculosis*

- 10 Carcases and all offals (generalized)
- 1 All offals, pleura and peritoneum strippings
- 12 Forequarters
- 2 Hindquarters
- 1 Set of offals



- 123 Heads
- 41 Livers
- 211 Sets lungs
- 18 Mesenterys
- 1 Stomach
- 5 Strippings
- 12 Udders
- 3 Diaphragms
- 3 Spleens
- 1 Heart

*Other diseases*

- 1 Calf carcase and offal, hydraemia
- 2 Carcases and all offals, septic metritis and severe bruising
- 1 Carcases and all offals, uraemia and nephritis
- 1 Hindquarter, dislocated stifle
- 1 Hindquarter meat (bone taint)
- Brisket and thin flank, severe bruising
- Stomach, 1 spleen and mesentery, severe bruising
- Peritoneum, strippings, inflammation

*Heads*

- 3 Actinomycosis
- 3 Actinomycosis (lumpy jaw)
- 2 Cysticercus bovis
- (carcases to Chesterfield cold store

*Livers*

- 149½ Cirrhosis
- 5 Flukes and cirrhosis
- 1 Carcinoma
- 2 Melanosis
- 4 Multiple hydatid cysts
- 1 Hydatid cysts and cirrhosis
- 2 Fatty degeneration
- 9 Neoplasms
- 1 Pyaemia
- 1 Necrosis
- 7 Angioma
- 1 Angioma and Abscesses
- 89 Abscesses
- 2 Cirrhosis and abscesses

(Portions) 137 Cirrhosis

*Kidneys—*

- 6 Nephritis
- 3 Cystic
- 1 Necrosis

(Fat) 1 Abscesses

*Lungs—*

- 5 Pneumonia

- 3 Pleurisy
- 1 Inflammation
- 16 Hydatid cysts

*Udders—*

- 91 Mastitis
- 1 Abscess

*Heart—*

- 1 Degenerated cyst (to Derby C.C laboratory)
- 1 Pericarditis

*Spleens—*

- 3 Inflammation

*Diaphragms—*

- 2 Inflammation

*Sheep—*

*Other diseases*

- 1 Melanosis
- 2 Abscesses

*Lungs—*

- 789 (sets) strongyli

*Livers—*

- 82½ Strongyli
- 9 Flukes and cirrhosis
- 6 Cysts

*Plucks—*

- 185 Strongyli
- 1 Pleurisy

*Pigs—*

*Tuberculosis*

- 140 Heads
  - 5 (Halves) heads (18 pigs sent away not examined this accounts for the half heads)

114 Plucks

- 26 Mesenterys
- 1 Loin

*Other diseases—*

- 2 Carcases and all offals, septic metritis
- 1 Carcase and all offals, erysipelas
- 1 All offals and trimmings, split aitches
- 1 Pluck, head, mesentery, stomach, pleurisy and peritonitis

*Hocks—*

- 1 Abscess

*Plucks—*

- 1 Angioma
- 1 Atrophy
- 1 Cysts
- 4 Pneumonia
- 1 Milk spots

*Lungs—*

164 (sets) Pneumonia

6 Pleurisy

*Livers—*

5 Milk spots and cirrhosis

1 Cirrhosis

1 Abscess

2 Hydatid Cysts

Flayings

*Heads—*

1 Abscesses

The following particulars relating to the above are asked for by the Ministry of Health Circular 17/55 dated 23rd November, 1955.

*Carcases Inspected and Condemned.*

		<i>Cattle, excluding cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
Number killed ...	...	408	2106	81	6193	7502
Number inspected	...	408	2095	81	6141	7474

*All diseases except T.B.:*

Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	3	1	Nil	3	
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	54	510	Nil	1076	192	
Percentage of the number in- spected with disease other than tuberculosis	...	12.23%	24.48%	1.22%	17.52%	2.60%

*Tuberculosis only:—*

Whole carcasses condemned	1	9	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	18	426	Nil	Nil	286
Percentage of number inspec- ted affected with T.B. ...	4.65%	20.76%	Nil	Nil	3.82%

Owing to circumstances over which I had no control, the following carcases were not inspected during the period of my annual leave:—

11 Beasts  
4 Forequarters  
1 Hindquarter  
52 Sheep  
28 Pigs

*No. of occasions overtime necessary at weekends, during the year, 1955.*

		<i>Saturday afternoon Occasions</i>	<i>Hours</i>	<i>Saturday evening Occasions</i>	<i>Hours</i>	<i>Sunday Occasions</i>	<i>Hours</i>
Self	...	48	48	45	50 $\frac{1}{4}$	36	59
Assistant	...	3	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	4	3	18	30



	<i>Week end overtime worked, hours</i>	<i>Other time worked hours</i>	<i>Total hours</i>
E. Mercer	157 $\frac{1}{4}$	143 $\frac{3}{4}$	301
G. T. Hayes	34 $\frac{1}{4}$	43 $\frac{1}{2}$	77 $\frac{3}{4}$

*Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933 (Amendment) Act, 1954.*

*Slaughter of Animals Act (Prevention of Cruelty)*

*Regulations, 1954.*

*Slaughter of Animals (Pigs) Act, 1954.*

We have an extremely competent band of slaughtermen in this district who are interested in their work, and who wholeheartedly co-operate with us in the maintenance of a satisfactory standard of hygiene. Young men are coming forward in increasing numbers and are being trained in this work by the more experienced men.

Trainees are tested in their skill in the use of a mechanically operated instrument before a licence is issued to them.

### **Meat Transport.**

The wholesaling of meat is practised in the district, meat being transported from premises in the adjoining rural area to several of our butchers who are engaged as purveyors only. The wholesaler in this area transports his meat in one of the most up-to-date meat delivery containers in the country. The vehicle was demonstrated at various conferences, the vehicle is fitted with "Neaverson" mechanical handling gear. The meat is loaded or unloaded from overhead rails, whilst the operator is standing at ground level.

The body itself sets a very high standard in meat transport. Being an all metal body of stainless steel and pressed aluminium sheets, a drop well is provided at the rear of the vehicle capable of accommodating 12 interlocking offal trays of stainless steel.

The vehicle can be easily and conveniently cleansed after use and is the most-up-to-date vehicle for use in meat transport. The "ideal" is accomplished by the operator being fitted with protective clothing and head-dress.

All butchers retail delivery vans are regularly inspected and no cause for complaint has arisen. All have been well maintained. The new Food Hygiene Regulations will effect a decided improvement in hygiene when brought fully into operation. The provision of portable washbasins, hot water, nailbrush, towel and soap will have the effect of very greatly improving the standard of hygiene.

*Circular MF 21/53, 2nd December, 1953.*

*Circular MF 10/54, 29th June, 1954.*

The above circulars impress upon local authorities the importance of ensuring the safe disposal of condemned meat (which incidentally emphasises the importance of meat inspection itself). We have continued our policy of enabling the individual butcher to recover some of his loss by disposing of his condemned meat to

either the Mansfield Hide and Skin Co. Ltd., Messrs. Bitterlings of Nottingham, Messrs. Churchmans of Mansfield Woodhouse or Barlows of Denby. Our system is slash and stain with acid green stain, all carcase meat and offals. We are thus assured of satisfactory disposal of all such meat, and no possibility of it being used for human consumption.

### Cat and Dog Meat Shops.

There are no knackers' yards in the area, but there are two in the adjoining rural district, one of which is delivering cat and dog meat to an establishment in this area. These premises are kept under constant supervision to ensure that all meat sold has been previously treated with naphthalene green to minimise the risk of the diseased meat being sold for human consumption.

### The Shops Acts, 1912-34-36-50.

*The Shops Regulations, 1912-13-37-39.*

*The Young Persons (Employment) Act and Order, 1938.*

As officer appointed under the Shops Act, I have to report that steady progress has been maintained throughout the year. The conditions under which shop assistants and others work in this area, in my opinion, bears favourable comparison with any other area in the country. Attention is given to the various matters affecting the comfort and welfare of the assistants, including seats for females, rest rooms if possible, sanitary conveniences, washing facilities, heating, lighting, ventilation and general cleanliness of premises. Food shops in particular are frequently visited.

During the year, water closet accommodation has been provided at three shops in the area, and *Ascot* heaters provided at four food shops. A total of 726 visits have been made to shop premises. Warnings have been given with regard to selling after hours, and of being open on the regular early closing day for sale of articles other than those prescribed.

The following details have been extracted from the register of shops :-

			<i>Canteens and cafes</i>	<i>Food shops</i>	<i>Other premises</i>	<i>Total</i>
Alfreton	...	...	20	91	131	242
Somercotes	...	...	8	71	54	133
Leabrooks	...	...	—	13	15	28
Riddings	...	...	4	39	22	65
Swanwick	...	...	3	23	16	42
Pye Bridge	...	...	3	3	4	10
Ironville and Codnor Park			2	14	10	26
Golden Valley	...	...	—	3	—	3
			40	257	252	549



Unsatisfactory conditions obtaining at two greengrocers and general businesses in Alfreton and Somercotes were reported to the Council in August and September, after I had made detailed inspection. The medical officer and I followed up the cases after reasonable time had been allowed for thorough cleansing of the premises. Warning was given to the effect that any deterioration in the conditions in future will result in legal action being taken. The premises were cleansed and internal decoration carried out.

**The Public Cleansing Service.**

The financial details relating to this service cover those for the year ending 31st March, 1956. The figures have been checked against the books kept by the Council's Financial Officer. Every possible economy has been effected consistent with the maintenance of an efficient service.

**Staff.**

The staff of the public cleansing department is as follows :-

<i>Refuse collection</i>	<i>Depot</i>
4 Motor drivers	1 Working foreman
9 Loaders	1 Man part time
5 Wheelers out	<i>Salvage</i>
5 Bin lads	2 Men baling paper and textiles
<i>Refuse disposal</i>	<i>Rats and mice destruction</i>
7 Men face of tip	1 Man part time
<i>Nightsoil collection and disposal</i>	
1 Driver	
4 Loaders	

As in the previous year, we did everything possible to avoid dislocation of the refuse collection service. The general public expect, and we have always been in a position to give them, a regular weekly collection of house refuse and salvage. Many local authorities have experienced difficulty in maintaining the service owing to staff shortages. It must be realized that this work is of an arduous character, and we cannot afford to neglect house refuse collection.

It has been extremely difficult to keep the vehicles fully staffed, and this is not surprising when one considers the high wages being offered in local industries, and we continue to lose the services of some of our best men. We have tried to maintain a full complement of 38 men but the figure has dropped below 30 on several occasions.

The increase in hours lost owing to sickness and general absenteeism is alarming, and the annual figures for the last three years are as follows :-

	<i>Total hours lost</i>
1953	... 7958
1954	... 7083
1955	... 9862



*Protective clothing.* As in the previous year, all workmen have been provided with two suits of overalls, and one pair of protective gloves. Reinforced gloves are provided for handling baled destructor scrap, etc.

### **Plant.**

The salvage plant at Leabrooks consists of a paper and textile baling shed containing two 'T' type Tonge's electric screw baling presses, one Rowell's corrugated iron tin-baling shed containing one Shirtcliffe electrically-operated Bijoli press, and one Heenan Standard mechanically-operated scrap metal baler for baled destructor scrap, the size of the bales being about 20" x 12" x 5" and a 12" cube respectively. A portion of the shed is used to house a Drimet battery charging rectifier for charging batteries used on the cleansing vehicles.

### **Garages.**

We have accommodation for three vehicles at our Leabrooks depot and for three at the Market Place, Somercotes. Excellent facilities are provided at Leabrooks depot for inspection and greasing of vehicles, charging batteries, etc., and this has resulted in a considerable saving to this authority.

The installation of our own compressor and plug cleaning set would be a great advantage. Neighbouring authorities claim to have set up their own repair services, and the cost of maintaining our increasing fleet of mechanically propelled vehicles at local garages is one that should, in my view, be periodically reviewed. The repair service given by private firms in this area is quite good and we are given a degree of priority. During the year the central heating of the garages was completed by the Surveyor's Staff.

### **Motor Vehicles.**

My recommendation to estimate for half cost of a further S. & D. to be included in the financial year, 1955/56, with a view to purchasing one in the financial year, 1956/57, was not accepted. We have consequently had to patch up the body work of the 1945 Dennis as best we can to manage until April 1957.

### **House, Trade Refuse and Nightsoil.**

Throughout the year the regular service was maintained. House refuse collected once per week, trade refuse and salvage twice a week, closet pails at least once a week, except in cases of overcrowded premises where pails were emptied twice weekly. Cesspools have been emptied free of charge twice per year, and where necessary, additional clearances have been charged for. The revenue from these sources can be ascertained on reference to the costing report on services.

The Cesspool Emptier has given us excellent service. The machine is serviced every week. In light of experience we carry spares for all wearing parts, as we cannot afford to have this vehicle out of service. It will be noted that the Surveyor's Department had the use of this vehicle for a total of 166 hours, 125½ Waterworks and 40½ Sewage Works at a cost of £87-6-5.

### **Disposal of House Refuse**

The controlled tips at Leabrooks and Somercotes cricket ground were well maintained during the year, and due to the rapid growth of the district by industrial development, municipal and private building, a steadily increasing volume of refuse had to be dealt with. We have completed the tipping site of 4½ acres for the Granwood Flooring Co. This conserved our tipping space at Leabrooks and elsewhere. We are in a very happy position with regard to tipping facilities in the area. Again, we have had numerous visitors to our depot and tipping site from other authorities and school children in their last year at school. All have been impressed with what we have to show them in the hygienic disposal of refuse and the reclamation of waste materials.

#### *Levelling of Brickyard, Somercotes.*

This project has been suspended for the time being.

As in previous years the Surveyor's Department very kindly tar sprayed the Leabrooks tip depot road and frontage to the buildings on the site.

#### *Fetes and Galas.*

It is my intention to retain 5 K.W. Bins to loan out to the promoters of Fetes and Galas as litter bins. At such promotions as the Riddings Flower Show and Gala, the department co-operates with the organisers to ensure that satisfactory and sufficient sanitary accommodation is available for use by the general public.

#### *Composting.*

The financial statement concerning this service has been rather disappointing, the reason is presumably, that allotment holders appear to have forgotten that we have this material available and we have a good stock on hand. We must not lose sight of the fact that on nightsoil disposal, costs would have been considerable, if we had used the old method of lagooning, particularly as the number of cesspools has been increased during the years.

### **Reclamation of Raw Materials.**

Reference to the Costing Report on services will show the comparison in receipts from salvage in year ending March, 1956, with the previous year :-

1953	474 tons at	£6 12s. 1d. per ton	
1954	553	„ £5 11s. 6d.	„
1955	550	„ £6 3s. 5d.	„
1956	594	„ £6 17s. 4d.	„



We hope to continue our salvage effort however, as it is realised that there are often factors to be taken into consideration apart from the monetary gain from salvage recovery.

### House Refuse Collection.

	Tons	£	s.	d.
Dennis 6 removed	2854	1015	14	2
Dennis 9     ,,	2742	913	13	5
Dennis 10   ,,	1490	548	8	9
S. & D.       ,,	4506	1216	19	9
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	11592	£3694	16	1

The wages of the loaders (excluding on costs) £5843/12/9 together with £3694/16/1, cost of motors, gives a figure of 16/5¼ per ton, compared with 15/10¼ in 1954.

Wages including on costs were: loaders, £7044/9/3, together with £3694/16/1, cost of motors, gives a figure of 18/6¼ per ton.

### Trade Refuse.

The income from 47 business premises for the collection of trade refuse not having any salvage value, and including various firms who deposit refuse on the tip at a charge of 1/- per load or ton, was £175/15/0. Messrs. Deosan Ltd. have deposited 136 tons 2 cwts. of straw at 1½d. per cwt., i.e., £17/0/3.

### Trade Refuse Collection.

<i>Expenditure</i>	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Loaders' wages     ...	49	4	6			
Hire of lorries     ...	31	13	0			
	<hr/>	<hr/>		80	17	6
<i>Income</i>				<hr/>	<hr/>	
Trade refuse     ...			...	175	15	0
				<hr/>	<hr/>	
1954 : £44 5s. 7d.				£94	17	6 Cr.

246 tons of trade refuse were collected, and 111 tons of trade refuse were deposited at Leabrooks tip; the income being in excess of expenditure.

### Salvage Account.

<i>Expenditure</i>	£	s.	d.
Lorry hire     ...	278	19	9
Wages     ...	1649	9	0
Baling wire   ...	32	10	0
Repairs to presses   ...	73	12	8
Sundries   ...	3	1	11
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
1954. £1720 18s. 3d.	£2037	13	4



## Income

	Tons cwt. qrs. lbs.				£	s.	d.
Mixed waste paper ...	318	12	1	0	2558	4	6
Baled destructor scrap	126	17	1	0	697	6	10
Bottles and jars ...	40	18	1	11	131	16	2
Cullet ...	18	13	0	0	22	13	5
Rags and textiles ...	6	7	0	12	77	8	4
Waste bones ...		6	0	14	2	1	4
Ferrous metals ...	78	2	1	0	314	14	0
Non-ferrous metals ...	1	8	3	13	268	1	7
Canteen waste ...	1	4	0	0	3	0	0
Waste rubber ...		17	3	0	1	15	6
Used Oil ...		9	0	0		6	3
Miscellaneous ...		4	2	14	1	12	11
	594	0	2	8	£4079	0	10

	Tons cwt.		£ s. d.				Tons cwt.		£ s. d.		
1933	0	0	15	2	11	1945	525	8	1806	13	6
1934	0	0	109	5	9	1946	454	15	1788	12	2
1935	0	0	140	11	6	1947	519	16½	2352	15	5
1936	0	0	329	10	0	1948	544	10	2477	8	6
1937	0	0	562	14	6	1949	557	19½	2247	13	7
1938	0	0	340	6	6	1950	553	14½	2489	1	5
1939	0	0	355	17	2	1951	706	11	5674	7	10
1940	356	1	1168	8	0	1952	474	3	3131	13	8
1941	426	7	1348	6	2	1953	552	13	3083	10	11
1942	692	8	2672	12	3	1954	550	5	3394	10	8
1943	548	9¾	2073	10	8	1955	594	0	4079	0	10
1944	588	13¾	2097	17	5						

**Total 8645 tons 15 cwt. £43739 11s. 4d.**

## Efficiency Statistics.

*Collection of house and trade refuse.  
(Including salvage collected separately).*

Number of premises from which refuse is collected	7837
Number of dustbins emptied weekly per annum ...	8100
Estimated tonnage (refuse is check-weighed the first week in January and the first week in July) ...	12432 tons
*Number of collectors ...	16
Weight of refuse collected per man hour per day (365 days per annum)...	2.128 tons
*Number of bins emptied per man hour ...	11.04
*Number of premises cleared per man hour ...	10.67

*Unit costs :-*

Gross expenditure per ton ...	...	...	17/6
Net cost per ton ...	...	...	17/8
Net cost per 1,000 population ...	...	...	£468
Net cost per 1,000 houses or premises from which refuse is collected ...	...	...	£1400
Total refuse collected (in tons) ...	...	...	12432 tons
Weight (in cwts.) per 1,000 population per day (365 days per annum) ...	...	...	28.98 cwts.

\*Excluding driver who does not load.

**House Refuse Disposal Account.**

<i>Expenditure.</i>	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Wages on tip ...	2332	6	10			
Lorry hire ...	92	6	8			
Sundries ...	26	8	1			
				2451	1	7

*Income.*

Rent of brickyard (D. Sansam) ...	9	11	10
	£2441	9	9

1954 : £2210 11s. 10d.

11,838 tons of refuse were disposed of at  $4/1\frac{1}{4}$  per ton as compared with  $3/9$  per ton in 1954.

**Nightsoil Collection and Disposal Account.**

<i>Expenditure</i>	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Loaders' wages ...	1030	19	7			
Lorry hire ...	1277	6	9			
Sundries ...	35	0	7			
				2343	6	11

*Income.*

Emptying cesspools ...	37	7	8
	£2305	19	3

3,133 tons of nightsoil were collected, due to the increase in the number of loads from cesspools, at a cost of  $14/8\frac{1}{2}$  per ton, compared with  $15/9\frac{1}{4}$  per ton in 1954.

**Nightsoil Composting Account.**

<i>Expenditure.</i>	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Wages ...	2	8	4			
Lorry hire ...	30	18	9			
				33	7	1

*Income.*

To sale of compost	...	...	19	10	0
			<hr/>		
			£	13	17 1

**Combined Costing.**

Collection of wet and dry refuse :

	Tons	£	s.	d.
House refuse	11592	9538	8	10
Nightsoil	3133	2305	19	3
Trade refuse	246	Cr. 94	17	6
	<hr/>	<hr/>		
	14971	£11749	10	7

This gives a figure of  $15/8\frac{1}{4}$  per ton, as compared with  $15/4\frac{1}{4}$  per ton in 1954.

**Rats and Mice Infestation Order.**

<i>Expenditure</i>			£	s.	d.
Administration	...	...	5	16	10
Wages	...	...	70	5	5
Rat bait	...	...	20	3	7
Equipment	...	...	7	5	0
Lorry hire	...	...	19	3	11
			<hr/>		
			£	122	14 9

*Income.*

Ministry of Agriculture grant	...	...	54	3	3
Business premises	...	...	14	8	3
			<hr/>		
			68	11	6
Actual expenditure	...	...	£	54	3 3

1954 : £30 8s. 10d.

**Sickness (Return for the year 1955.**

	<i>Sick pay</i>	<i>Unpaid sickness</i>	<i>Other time lost</i>	<i>Total</i>
1. Number of men involved	38	13	43	94
2. Hours lost...	670½	576	2579	9862½
3. Percentage of (2) to (5)	7.90%	.66%	2.99%	11.46%
4. Total number of men employed	...	...	...	38
5. Possible working hours	...	...	...	86056
6. Percentages of registered disabled persons to total staff:				
(a) commencement of period	...	...	...	10.5
(b) end of period	...	...	...	10.5
7. Number in (1) absent through illness				36
accident				5



May I conclude my report with a word of thanks to our Medical Officer of Health, Dr. A. Laurie, for his advice and co-operation ; to my lady clerks ; Mr. G. T. Hayes, my assistant ; the outdoor staff of the Cleansing Department, and foreman Mr. T. A. Smith for loyal service ; and finally to the Chairman of the Public Health Committee, Councillor M. Hewitt, and the members of the Council for their confidence and support.

E. MERCER.

# MOTORS ACCOUNT

Service	Dennis 5	Dennis 6	Dennis 9	Dennis 10	S. & D.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Drivers' wages ...	537 3 2	392 13 3	394 9 8	342 2 10	396 4 1
On Costs ...	110 7 8	80 13 9	81 1 3	70 6 1	81 8 4
Petrol and Diesel ...	337 2 6	253 17 11	190 3 8	190 18 7	163 16 0
Oils ...	13 0 10	5 13 0	11 4 9	9 19 8	3 18 4
Insurance ...	6 13 8	8 1 6	6 13 8	7 10 4	15 13 3
Depreciation ..	28 16 0	81 12 0	47 4 0	25 12 0	320 0 0
Licences ...	60 16 0	79 17 0	66 11 6	66 11 6	114 11 6
Repairs ...	63 12 3	33 17 11	50 4 9	52 13 11	11 1 5
Miscellaneous ...	205 17 11	106 17 7	125 13 5	110 7 0	149 15 11
	1363 10 0	1043 3 11	973 6 8	876 1 11	1256 8 10

# ALLOCATION OF EXPENDITURE ON MOTORS

Service	Dennis 5	Dennis 6	Dennis 9	Dennis 10	S. & D.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
House refuse collection ...		1015 14 2	913 13 5	548 8 9	1216 19 9
House refuse disposal ...		19 3	2 15 6	88 11 11	
Trade refuse collection ...		1 8 11	1 7 9	27 13 1	1 3 3
Salvage ...		24 11 11	52 14 6	164 10 8	37 2 8
Nightsoil collection ...	1276 3 7				1 3 2
Nightsoil composting ...				30 18 9	
Rats and mice destruction ...		9 8	2 15 6	15 18 9	
Surveyor's department ...	87 6 5				
	1363 10 0	1043 3 11	973 6 8	876 1 11	1256 8 10





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